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The King delivering his first address to the nation and Commonwealth, at which he spoke of owing his inspiring mother the most heartfelt debt for her "love, affection, guidance, understanding and example"

# I pledge myself to you

● King's solemn vow in first televised address ● Emotional tribute to 'darling mama' ● William becomes Prince of Wales

## Valentine Low

The King paid an emotional tribute to his "darling mama" as he gave a televised address to the nation in which he pledged to renew her promise of lifelong service.

He spoke of his "profound sorrow" at her death and ended by quoting from *Hamlet*: "May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

He announced that he was making his elder son, William, the Prince of Wales. William's wife, Catherine, will become the Princess of Wales, the first person since Diana to use the title.

In the speech, which lasted nine and a half minutes and was recorded in the Blue Drawing Room of Buckingham Palace earlier in the day, the King also spoke of his love for the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, who remain in the country after extending their visit.

The King, who spoke with warmth and feeling as he sat beside a photograph of his mother, began by saying: "I speak to you today with feelings of profound sorrow. Throughout her life, Her Majesty the Queen — my beloved mother — was an inspiration and example to me and to all my family, and

we owe her the most heartfelt debt any family can owe to their mother; for her love, affection, guidance, understanding and example.

"Queen Elizabeth was a life well lived; a promise with destiny kept and she is mourned most deeply in her passing. That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today."

Her death, he said, "brings great sadness to so many of you and I share that sense of loss, beyond measure, with you all".

In his sorrow, he called on people to "remember and draw strength from the light of her example". He added: "On behalf of all my family, I can only offer the most sincere and heartfelt thanks for your condolences and support.

"They mean more to me than I can ever possibly express. And to my darling mama, as you begin your last great journey to join my dear late papa, I want simply to say this: thank you."

"Thank you for your love and devotion to our family and to the family of nations you have served so diligently all these years. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

King Charles, who was dressed in a black suit, black tie and with a black and

white checked handkerchief in his breast pocket, also spoke of the famous speech his mother made on her 21st birthday in 1947 in which she pledged to devote her life — "whether it be short or long" — to the service of her peoples. "That was more than a promise: it was a profound personal commitment

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## News Queen Elizabeth II

# New reign starts with thanks for

Continued from page 1

moment he also revealed his vulnerability, telling one onlooker: "I've been dreading this day."

Shortly after his walkabout he had his first meeting with the new prime minister at Buckingham Palace. Liz Truss led tributes to the Queen in the House of Commons, saying she had been "one of the greatest leaders the world has ever known".

She said that after the "shocking news" of the Queen's death "we have witnessed the most heartfelt outpouring of loss and grief".

Truss visited the Palace for her audience with the King yesterday afternoon. In a video of the meeting, she was seen to curtsey before the pair shook hands. The King said he would not "take up too much of your time", before they both sat together.

The King told Truss that it had been "so touching" to see mourners gathered outside the Palace. The prime minister gave her "very sincere condolences", which he said was "very kind", before adding: "It's a moment I've been dreading, as I know a lot of people have." Bracing his arms, he said that he would "try and keep everything together" before showing Truss to her seat. The King will hold a weekly meeting with the prime minister, as the Queen did throughout her reign.

Charles will be formally proclaimed King at a historic Accession Council in the State Apartments of St James Palace at 10am today. The ceremony will be televised for the first time.

The council, consisting of 250 dignitaries, will formally proclaim the death of Queen Elizabeth and the accession to the throne of King Charles. His heir, William, the Prince of Wales, is expected to be present but the King cannot attend the meeting.

A briefing later in the day will confirm the date of the funeral, which is expected to be a week on Monday as well as the arrangement for taking the Queen's coffin in procession through the streets of Edinburgh to lie in rest at St Giles' Cathedral. Later the Queen will lie in state at Westminster Hall in London.

In a break with tradition, the Queen

### SHAKESPEARE AND LOVE

"May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest," the King said as he thanked his late mother for her life of service. Many will have recognised it from Shakespeare, as Horatio mourns the death of Hamlet, but for the royals and King Charles in particular there are deeper layers of meaning.

The phrase was used by Sir John Tavener in his *Song for Athene*, which was played at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales. It is a phrase that means so much to the King and his children, and he used it at a heightened moment of poignancy. Prince William's creation as Prince of Wales also elevated his wife, Catherine, to be Princess of Wales, and the first to use that title since Diana.

Tavener, who died in 2013, remains a favourite composer of the royal family, famed for his choral and religious works. *The Times* described him as "among the very best creative talents of his generation".

will become the first British monarch to have a funeral at Westminster Abbey since George II in 1760. The decision was made so the service would take place in larger, more public surroundings.

However, like all of her predecessors for the past 200 years, she will be buried in Windsor. After the funeral service her coffin will be taken there in procession. A committal will be held at St George's Chapel. The Queen will be reunited with her parents and sister in the King George VI Memorial Chapel, an annex on the north side of the building. The Duke of Edinburgh was laid in the main vault last April, but will be moved to be with his wife. George VI's body was moved there from the main vault on its completion in 1969.

**It's up to us to shape the Charles we want, Matthew Parris, page 25  
Constitutional monarchy serves a crucial function, leading article, page 29  
Our new King could be one of the greats, Weekend Essay, pages 32-33**



King Charles III held his first formal audience with Liz Truss since she was appointed as prime minister by the Queen on

# I renew the promise of lifelong service: King's speech in full

**“** I speak to you today with feelings of profound sorrow. Throughout her life, Her Majesty the Queen — my beloved mother — was an inspiration and example to me and to all my family, and we owe her the most heartfelt debt any family can owe to their mother; for her love, affection, guidance, understanding and example.

Queen Elizabeth was a life well lived; a promise with destiny kept and she is mourned most deeply in her passing. That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today.

Alongside the personal grief that all

my family are feeling, we also share with so many of you in the United Kingdom, in all the countries where the Queen was head of state, in the Commonwealth and across the world, a deep sense of gratitude for the more than 70 years in which my mother, as Queen, served the people of so many nations.

In 1947, on her 21st birthday, she pledged in a broadcast from Cape Town to the Commonwealth to devote her life, whether it be short or long, to the service of her peoples.

That was more than a promise: it was a profound personal commitment

which defined her whole life. She made sacrifices for duty.

Her dedication and devotion as sovereign never wavered, through times of change and progress, through times of joy and celebration, and through times of sadness and loss.

In her life of service we saw that abiding love of tradition, together with that fearless embrace of progress, which make us great as nations. The affection, admiration and respect she inspired became the hallmark of her reign.

And, as every member of my family can testify, she combined these qualities with warmth, humour and an unerring ability always to see the best in people.

I pay tribute to my mother's memory and I honour her life of service.

I know that her death brings great sadness to so many of you and I share that sense of loss, beyond measure, with you all.

When the Queen came to the throne, Britain and the world were still coping with the privations and aftermath of the Second World War, and still living by the conventions of earlier times.

In the course of the last 70 years we have seen our society become one of many cultures and many faiths.

The institutions of the state have changed in turn. But, through all changes and challenges, our nation and the wider family of realms — of whose talents, traditions and achievements I am so inexpressibly proud — have prospered and flourished. Our values have remained, and must remain, constant.

The role and the duties of monarchy also remain, as does the sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England, the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.

In that faith, and the values it inspires, I have been brought up to cherish a sense of duty to others, and to hold in the greatest respect the precious traditions, freedoms and responsibilities of our unique history and our system of parliamentary government.

As the Queen herself did with such unswerving devotion, I too now solemnly pledge myself, throughout the remaining time God grants me, to uphold the constitutional principles at

the heart of our nation. And wherever you may live in the United Kingdom, or in the realms and territories across the world, and whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.

My life will, of course, change as I take up my new responsibilities. It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply. But I know this important work will go on in the trusted hands of others.

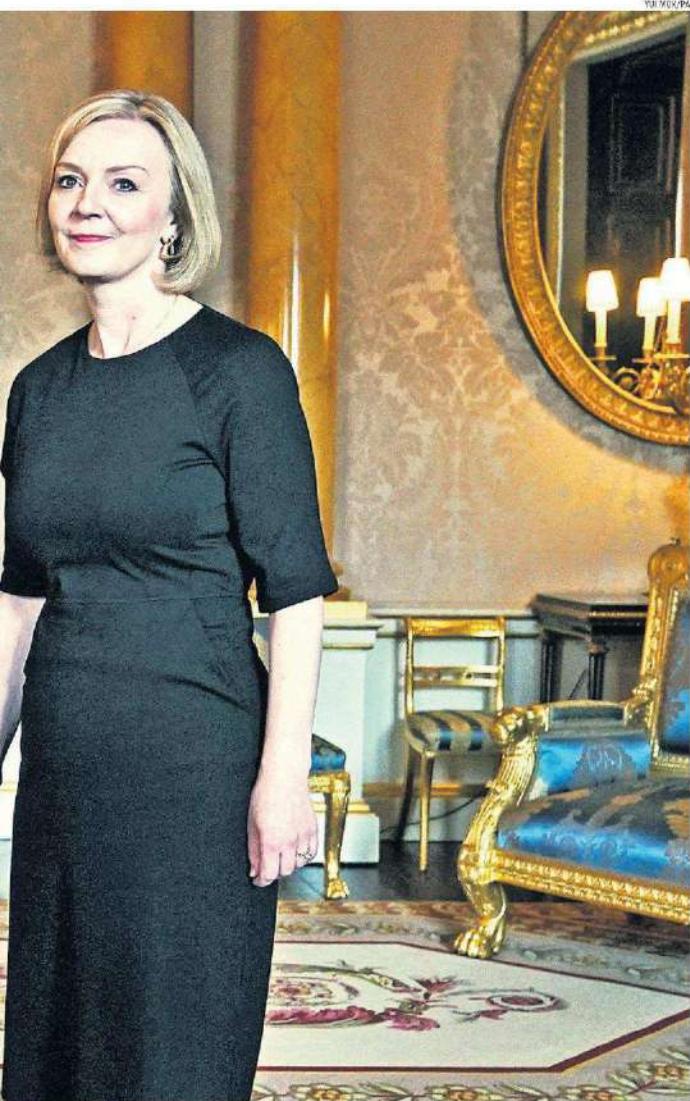
This is also a time of change for my family. I count on the loving help of my darling wife, Camilla.

In recognition of her own loyal public service since our marriage 17 years ago, she becomes my Queen Consort. I know she will bring to the demands of her new role the steadfast devotion to duty on which I have come to rely so much.

As my heir, William now assumes the Scottish titles which have meant so much to me.

He succeeds me as Duke of Cornwall and takes on the responsibilities for the Duchy of Cornwall which I have under-

# the past and faith in the future



Tuesday. She was the 15th prime minister of the Queen's 70-year reign

taken for more than five decades. Today, I am proud to create him Prince of Wales, Tywysog Cymru, the country whose title I have been so greatly privileged to bear during so much of my life.

With Catherine beside him, our new Prince and Princess of Wales will, I know, continue to inspire and lead our national conversations, helping to bring the marginal to the centre ground where vital help can be given.

I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas.

In a little over a week's time we will come together as a nation, as a commonwealth and indeed a global community, to lay my beloved mother to rest.

In our sorrow, let us remember and draw strength from the light of her example.

On behalf of all my family, I can only offer the most sincere and heartfelt thanks for your condolences and support. They mean more to me than I can ever possibly express.

And to my darling Mama, as you begin your last great journey to join my dear late Papa, I want simply to say this: thank you. Thank you for your love and devotion to our family and to the family of nations you have served so diligently all these years.

May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

## Starting in The Times today

A week of souvenir supplements to mark this moment in history



**Plus next weekend**  
Special editions of  
The Times and Sunday  
Times magazines  
celebrating Her  
Majesty's life in pictures

Some sections of today's Times contain advertisements because they were printed before the death of the Queen. TV schedules have been revised since Saturday Review went to press.

## Son and heir immediately named as Prince of Wales

Ben Clatworthy, Jack Blackburn

The King has acted swiftly to appoint his son and heir as the Prince of Wales, announcing the move in a televised broadcast to the nation.

The King said: "Today, I am proud to create him Prince of Wales, Tywysog Cymru, the country whose title I have been so greatly privileged to bear during so much of my life and duty. With Catherine beside him, our new Prince and Princess of Wales will, I know, continue to inspire and lead our national conversations, helping to bring the marginal to the centre ground where vital help can be given."

It is the first time the title of Princess of Wales has been used since the divorce of Prince Charles and Princess Diana in 1996. Camilla never used the title because of its association with Diana, and became Duchess of Cornwall upon her marriage to Charles in 2005. Diana lost her HRH style and her title was changed to Diana, Princess of Wales, after the divorce. She died in a car crash in Paris a year later.

A royal source said Catherine, the Duchess of Cornwall and Cambridge, would aim to "create her own path" as she takes on the role of Princess of Wales. The source added: "The couple are focused on deepening the trust and respect of the people of Wales."

"The Prince and Princess of Wales will approach their roles in the modest and humble way they've approached their work previously."

The new Princess of Wales appreciates the history associated with this role but will understandably want to look to the future as she creates her own path."

The King, addressing the nation from Buckingham Palace, said William also assumed the Scottish titles, "which have meant so much to me", and succeeds him as Duke of Cornwall.



William, the new Prince of Wales, would continue to inspire and lead, said the King, photographed with him at a Garter ceremony in 2014

William will take on the responsibilities for the Duchy of Cornwall, a role the King has undertaken for more than five decades. The couple's children are now Prince George, Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis of Wales.

Recent tradition dictates that the Prince of Wales be invested with the title at Caernarfon Castle, in the north-west of the country. In 1969 Prince Charles was not yet 21 when the ceremony took place.

Eager to show commitment to the people of his new principality, the prince learnt Welsh, spending ten weeks at the University College of Wales in Aberystwyth. He delivered his address in the language. His teacher was Edward Millward, the Welsh scholar. Their relationship was dramatised for an episode of *The Crown*. It remains to be seen whether the new Prince of Wales will follow his father's example.

The prince, in ceremonial dress, will proceed into the castle, where

the King will invest him with many symbols, including a ring, a coronet and a sword.

He will then say: "I, William, Prince of Wales, do become your liege man of life and limb and of earthly worship, and faith and truth I will bear unto thee, to live and die against all manner of folks."

Charles's investiture was only the second such ceremony since it was re-instituted for the future Edward VIII in 1911.

This was largely down to David Lloyd George, the Liberal Party politician and later prime minister, who was seeking to address a rise in Welsh nationalism and a slide in his popularity.

The title itself dates to 1301, when Edward I gave the title to his heir apparent, who later reigned as Edward II.

## Echoes of his mother's pledge to nation

### ANALYSIS

**A**mid all his sorrow, his heartfelt tributes to his mother and his warm words about his family, one word in the King's address to the nation mattered above all others: service (Valentine Low writes).

Charles recognised that his mother's long reign had been one dedicated to service. And, just as she once said that she would devote her life to the service of her people, his message to the nation — and to the Commonwealth — was that he would do the same.

Significantly, Charles answered his critics head on. Some have voiced fears that he will be a meddlesome monarch,

prone to interfering in politics; to them he emphasised how he would respect "the precious traditions, freedoms and responsibilities of our unique history and our system of parliamentary government" and "uphold the constitutional principles at the heart of our nation".

Recognising that he would have less to do with his beloved charities was also an important part of acknowledging that as King, he would no longer be able to conduct himself as he did when Prince of Wales.

Famously, Charles, who has long been a champion of interfaith dialogue, once said that when he became King he would be "defender of faith" rather than "defender of the faith".

To counter the suspicions that have existed as a result of that much-debated remark, Charles took care to speak of his Christian faith.

There was recognition, too, that the monarchy faced its own challenges, with a number of Caribbean realms threatening to follow the example of Barbados and replace the Queen as their head of state.

Charles's message about how he would serve the realms — "of whose talents, traditions and achievements I am so inexplicably proud" — was a deliberate effort to show how much they are in his thoughts.

But it was not all politics. By talking of his love for Harry and Meghan, who have extended their stay in Britain in order to attend

the Queen's funeral, he was making a gesture aimed at trying to repair the family rift that has caused Charles such pain.

And there was symbolism, too. As he sat at the antique polished desk, in the same room where the Queen often filmed her Christmas broadcasts, next to him was a vase of delicate white sweet peas set with sprigs of rosemary — the herb traditionally associated with remembrance and mourning — placed in memory of his mother.

The posy stood in a small silver vase — at the base of which were several small silver playful-looking corgis.

The ornament was used by the Queen, whose passion for corgis dated back to her childhood, when she used to sit at the very same desk.

## News Queen Elizabeth II



The King and Queen Consort landed at RAF Northolt in west London yesterday and were welcomed by huge crowds and a large floral tribute when they arrived by car at Buckingham Palace



# I've been dreading this day, King tells crowds at palace

**Lucy Bannerman, Mario Ledwith  
Ben Ellery**

"Good Luck Charlie!" "We love your mum!" "God save the King."

The new monarch greeted well-wishers in a surprise appearance outside Buckingham Palace yesterday and the reaction was remarkable in its warmth and affection for King Charles III.

No matter the decades of meticulous preparation and solemn choreography, there is one thing that no amount of Palace planning can control: the public reaction.

The King's impromptu walkabout yesterday afternoon, in which he was cheered and even kissed by well-wishers, marked a heartwarming start to his reign. It was also, according to one mourner, a day that the new monarch confessed he had been "dreading".

The King was loudly applauded as he walked along the throng of people by the palace gates, shaking their hands and thanking them for their condolences, in a 12-minute visit that delighted the crowds.

His arrival was signalled by cheers and cries of "God bless the King" as the

car approached. He got out and immediately started greeting the public. Among those who met the new King were Margaret Walker, 95, and her daughter Jill, from Wokingham in Berkshire.

Jill had already planned to treat her mother to a tour of Buckingham Palace yesterday as a birthday present. When they learnt of the Queen's death on Thursday evening they decided to go ahead with the trip.

The palace might have been closed to visitors but they ended up meeting the King and the Queen Consort instead.

Walker described the encounter as "wonderful". She said: "My mum shook Camilla's hand and Charles stood in front of us. We just said how sorry we were. And he was just thanking people for coming out."

The prince, in a black suit and tie, was the picture of composure despite his grief, smiling and shaking hands the length of the palace forecourt.

Victoria Binley, 51, from Rutland, grabbed his hands and kissed them before he entered Buckingham Palace for the first time as King.

"By chance I was at the front waiting

to give flowers and realised the King and Queen [consort] would be coming. "He came along shaking hands — and I shook his hand and said, 'God bless you and your family, our thoughts and love are with you'. And in an overwhelming moment I kissed his hand."

She said that Charles told her he had been "dreading" this moment.

"He said, 'Oh thank you so much. I've been dreading this day, I've been dreading this. Thank you so much all of you.'

Janny Assiminos went further, kissing the new King on the cheek.

"I couldn't believe it and I said to him, 'May I kiss you?' And he said, 'Well, yes.' So I grabbed him, and I'm very happy," Assiminos told CNN. Though it might have been considered a breach of royal protocol, he did not seem to mind.

As Charles worked his way along the line he was met with shouts of "we wish you success" and "thank you Charles, God bless you".

One woman grabbed his arm and said: "Good luck my darling, you are a good man." Another woman wept as she gave her condolences, while another told him: "We loved you [as] Prince Charles and we loved your

mum." The King did not stop, determined to meet as many people as possible. He could be heard saying: "We have wonderful memories."

The new Queen Consort also made her way slowly down the line to cries of "God bless you Camilla."

Dressed in a black Fiona Clare dress and coat she appeared more tearful than her husband. While very few people could be heard referring to her yet as Her Majesty, the reception could not have been warmer. She was greeted with cries of "we love you Camilla" and "we are so sorry for your loss".

As Charles reached the end of the line, the crowd shouted "three cheers for the King, hip hip hooray".

Sarah Styles, 57, from Northern Ireland said: "I just felt I really needed to come down and pay my respects to the Queen and tell him that he is loved and supported."

Russlyn Stickland, 56, had been allowed by her boss to skip work and join mourners at Buckingham Palace. She had not dared to think that she would be among the first members of the public to meet the new King.

He stopped in front of her, pointing at

the Trinidad and Tobago flag she was carrying. "The King said 'the flag' and asked where it was from. I said it was from Trinidad and Tobago. I told him I was very sorry for his loss and he said 'Thank you, thank you very much'.

The teacher at a Montessori nursery, who was born in Trinidad and Tobago and moved to the UK 31 years ago, was returning to the palace for the second time, having already travelled there on Thursday evening after learning of the Queen's death, arriving at 10.15pm and leaving just before midnight.

She told Camilla "that I was here representing the Commonwealth and that I'm here to pass on my condolences from everyone in the Commonwealth".

She said she saw the late Queen as a role model for herself and the children she taught, using her age to help the students count to 96 and teaching them the national anthem.

"I took magazines in and read about her to them so they learnt quite a lot during the Jubilee," she added.

After the walkabout, the couple entered Buckingham Palace, where the Royal Standard was flying once again to show that the sovereign is in residence.

Stickland, who shook both the couple's hands, said: "I looked at them and I just thought they were being brave. Because obviously if you've just lost a main person in your family this is very tough to do. I was surprised and I didn't think this [walkabout] was going to happen."

"It's a tough act to follow but if the country supports them in ruling hopefully the monarchy will continue." The early signs were promising, she added. "So far so good."



**Victoria Binley from Rutland kisses the King's hand outside Buckingham Palace after the royal couple left their car to greet the crowds. Everybody wanted to get their own picture, it seemed**



# Philip's support for Queen will be model for Camilla

**Jack Malvern, Charlie Parker**

The King has said he will "count on the loving help" of his wife Camilla as she becomes his Queen Consort.

Describing "a time of change for my family", Charles III told the nation yesterday he will rely on his "darling wife" for support now that he is head of the Royal Family.

Her new title is in "recognition of her own loyal public service since our marriage 17 years ago", he added in his first address to the nation since becoming monarch.

In her first public appearance as a queen, Camilla maintained a discreet distance behind her husband as they greeted crowds at Buckingham Palace.

It was a familiar sight to those who saw how the late Duke of Edinburgh conducted himself as consort.

Camilla is likely to follow his model as a "strength and stay" for Charles III, her biographer suggests.

Penny Junor, author of *The Duchess*, said: "[Prince Philip] worked away at his charities and kept in the background and never took away attention from the Queen — apart from a couple of gaffes, arguably." She said Camilla "will be working for her charities, which she does with extraordinary proficiency".

The Queen Consort's causes cover issues ranging from sexual violence and literacy to the arts and medical detection dogs. She lost her mother, Rosalind, and grandmother, Sonia, to the bone disease osteoporosis and became patron of the National Osteoporosis Society in 1997, then president in 2001.

She is close to her two children and five grandchildren, who know her as "Gaga". An avid reader and beekeeper, she has two Jack Russell terriers named Beth and Bluebell, adopted from the Battersea dogs home.

Junor predicts that she will bring a cheeriness to less sombre events. "She's such a giggler. She makes anyone around her giggle, especially Charles.

"If you're watching them from behind you suddenly see her shoulders start heaving, and then his do too.

"She does raise an eyebrow at reporters if she sees something a bit dubious."

The royal family had previously suggested that Camilla would be known as "princess consort" as a reflection of her status as Charles's second wife.

However, the Queen made her intentions clear in a statement issued during the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

"When, in the fullness of time, my son Charles becomes King, I know you will give him and his wife Camilla the

same support that you have given me," she wrote. "It is my sincere wish that, when the time comes, Camilla will be known as Queen Consort as she continues her own loyal service."

Junor added: "I think she's going to be a terrific consort. I've always thought she would be the strength behind him.

"I don't think she will be a meddling consort — she has never had any ambition to be anything other than wife.

"She won't be a power behind the throne. She will be hugely supportive and he needs it because he's not always been the most confident of men."

Camilla has gradually taken on a more prominent position within the royal family, including riding next to the Queen in her Diamond Jubilee carriage procession.

She also began to attend the state opening of parliament.

She was made a Privy Counsellor in 2016 ahead of the Queen's official 90th birthday, meaning she will be beside Charles when he is formally proclaimed monarch at the Accession Council.

Camilla will be crowned at Charles's side at his coronation. She is expected to wear the Queen Mother's 1937 coronation crown.

## Charities renamed as their prince takes on new role

**Dominic Kennedy**

The need to focus on his duties as monarch means the King will have to step back from some of his charitable work, he has said. However, the charities he founded will be renamed to mark his accession.

The Prince's Trust, The Prince's Foundation and The Prince of Wales's Charitable Fund will become The King's Trust, The King's Foundation and The King's Charitable Fund.

The King will remain figurehead of the main charities he has been creating since the 1970s and which now form a £100 million-a-year movement helping causes from youths to planting trees.

Planning has been discreetly in place. A review of his charities four years ago was presented as a restructuring and streamlining exercise prompted by the "milestone" of his 70th birthday.

"These changes do not mean I am stepping back from my charitable work or downsizing in any way — it is simply an opportunity to work more efficiently and, I hope, to even greater effect," he said at the time. Charity sources explained yesterday that the intention had indeed been to rationalise his myriad of causes and put the charities left on a sound footing, each chaired by a single person, so that they could run smoothly once he became King.

Charles began his charitable work in the 1970s by creating the Prince's Trust, which helped young people get into education, training and jobs.

With no job description for being heir to the throne, he seized on the role of charity entrepreneur. He set up organisations to further the many causes which inspired him, and eventually had charities for British Asians, Scottish youths, skills, careers, drawing, children, traditional arts, teaching, integrated health, building and others.

These were slimmed down in 2018 to three organisations. A royal source said: "In 2018, the King's charities were consolidated to help ensure that they were focused and resilient. The charities have continued to grow. While his commitment to the causes will remain, he recognises that his new role will not allow him to focus on these."

The Charity Commission cleared the Prince of Wales's Charitable Fund of wrongdoing over allegations that it received £2.5 million in cash from a Qatari sheikh and a separate donation from relatives of Osama Bin Laden.

The police have been investigating a report that the Prince's Foundation may have broken honours abuse laws by helping a donor get a CBE.

Clarence House has said Charles had no knowledge of any cash-for-honours deal. The Prince's Foundation has said it would be inappropriate to comment on an ongoing investigation.

## News Queen Elizabeth II



Police read messages outside Buckingham Palace. While most people brought bouquets, others offered less traditional tributes. Along with some broccoli stuffed into the gates was an M&S gift card and a message asking "Queenie" to "look out for Lacey ... get her some pork and cake on me"



# Mourners hugged and shared stories outside royal gates

From children to the elderly, all felt the loss. Lucy Bannerman, Mario Ledwith and Charlie Parker report

As the country woke to its first day without the Queen, mourners flocked from far and wide to pay their respects at royal residences, parks and estates around the country.

Grandparents who felt they had grown up with the Queen stood side-by-side with children clutching bouquets to add to an ever-growing river of flowers.

In times of grief people come together to share stories about the deceased, and many of those present had anecdotes about their brush with the Queen.

Corgis made of wicker, teddy bears and even pots of marmalade — a reference to the video the Queen made with Paddington Bear for her Platinum Jubilee — were left at the gates of Balmoral, Sandringham, Buckingham Palace and Windsor in what has been the country's biggest outpouring of grief since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

**BALMORAL**  
Angus MacDonald, 84, made a special effort to rise to his feet from his wheelchair, remove his cap and salute in front of a growing mass of flowers placed before the Queen's Scottish residence.

"I'll always miss her. She'll always be my queen," the army veteran said as tears rolled down his cheeks. "I haven't got the words to describe how sad I feel."

MacDonald said he felt genuine "love" for Her Majesty, adding that he met her at Buckingham Palace in 1976 while on duty with the armed forces.

David Cobban, 57, the local businessman who chaired the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in a nearby village in June, recalled her kind and gentle nature. "She visited a number of busi-

nesses, walked down the street, spoke to a lot of people and she lifted the village. That was the first time after the flood that we allowed ourselves to be lifted, to relax and enjoy.

"This is more than losing the monarch. We have lost a friend and a neighbour. Some people here worked for the Queen all their lives so for them it is poignant that she died here."

Buddhist monks chanted at the gates in a show of grief at the loss of the Queen. Sujan Maharjan, from Nepal, an abbot at a Buddhist centre in Aberdeen, made the trip with fellow monk Manop Karnjanabumrung.

The abbot said: "Chanting for someone who passed away is a Buddhist tradition. This is sad news for all of us. Recently we celebrated her Platinum Jubilee by inviting different faiths to our centre and that gave us a close feeling with the Queen."

### LONDON

Once news of the Queen's grave condition broke, the mood outside Buckingham Palace changed and so, too, had the crowds.

The first wave of people had been the flag-watchers — those who felt compelled to hold vigil by the gates on seeing the ominous news alerts.

They were older Britons who felt a lifelong connection to a woman they had never met, and curious tourists who realised they were about to witness a bigger changing of the guard than they had bargained for.

Later that evening the mood became strangely festive as a younger crowd descended on the Victoria Memorial, cheering for group photos and singing cheerful renditions of *God Save the Queen*, slightly unsure of the words.

By yesterday morning, thousands more had arrived — a more traditional crowd, perhaps, who had come with letters and photographs and children's drawings to leave among the tributes.

They formed an orderly queue that stretched all the way up Constitution Hill.

Somebody, who had possibly arrived to find the flower shops bare, had

stuffed a broccoli into the palace gates: price tag removed, but still in its plastic supermarket wrapping. Another family had stuck an M&S gift card on to the gates.

"Queenie," it said. "Please look out for Lacey for me. Get her some fish, pork and cake on me."

Many visitors spoke of the need to come and represent their departed loved ones: the long life of the Queen had been a golden thread connecting them to the postwar worlds of their grandparents, and now that was gone too.

Emillie Emblin-Jones, 37, brought a photograph of her grandmother, June James, a nurse from Billericay in Essex, who died last year aged 87. "I just know she would have been here, if she could, so I wanted to come for her."

Again, many well-wishers spoke of the unexpectedly upbeat atmosphere. This was not a premature death. They were celebrating a long life, and an apparently quick and peaceful passing. The floral tributes were dotted with potted plants and Paddington Bears.

Andy and Jennifer Peckham felt duty bound to bring their pair of Welsh corgis, Bastian and Caspar, to pay tribute. The dogs certainly seemed to be enjoying the attention. "I've never stroked a corgi before," cooed Julie Lynch, 50, from Hertfordshire, who was so smitten that she started wondering whether she should get one of her own.

When the booms of the gun salute began in Hyde Park at 1pm, the crowds fell still as 96 rounds were fired, one for each year of the Queen's life.

The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery fired the Death Gun Salute.

Cavalrymen in ceremonial dress led 71 horses from Buckingham Palace to the park, with 36 horses pulling 13-pounder field guns from the First World War era. The noise of the first blast scattered birds from the park's trees and generated screams from both children and adults.

Aside from a minor scuffle between two American tourists hoping for a prime position to capture smartphone video footage, each shot brought

another wave of silence. Co-ordinated gun salutes were fired at the same time at 16 other locations, including Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh, York and military bases. Salutes were also fired from six Royal Navy ships, five of which were off the UK, with the HMS Lancaster anchored off Portugal.

In the capital, the Death Gun Salute was fired at the Tower of London by the Honourable Artillery Company.

### WINDSOR

Thousands trickled through the town's streets to pay tribute to its most famous resident. At the Long Walk, tearful mourners took in the sea of flowers and left hand-written tributes after hun-

dreds of people had arrived late into the night. Among them were Joseph Kohler, in his seventies and mother Billie, in her nineties, who were visiting from the Bahamas.

"She was majestic until the end, and she defined public service other than perhaps Jesus Christ," Kohler said. "That lady, when she made that speech, she devoted her life to her subjects, to the Commonwealth, to the world. She's been in all of our lives. I've never heard anyone say one untoward word about Her Majesty."

Ian Wheeler, 79, a retired plumber, and wife Mary, 71, a former bank worker, came from Camberley in Surrey to pay their respects. "We left her a





A sea of flowers left outside Windsor Castle, where those paying tribute included one loyal subject in his seventies — accompanied by his mother. Elsewhere, some visitors to Buckingham Palace wore funeral black, while others wore crowns



message saying 'You've been in all my life, and I've always tried to live by your morals and bring my family up to your morals.' I can't remember anything else," Mr Wheeler said. "I vaguely remember her being crowned when my mum and dad had just bought a telly."

#### SANDRINGHAM

Hundreds of mourners braved heavy rain at the estate's Norwich Gates to pay tribute to the Queen, a figure considered by local residents as a down-to-earth member of the community.

Nicky Gordon, 56, a mental health nurse, placed a small tin of fine-cut orange marmalade at the gates. She said: "Marmalade is quite a fun

memory. She had that little twinkle in her eye when she brought out that sandwich from her bag. That was her little bit of fun so the marmalade is a little bit of fun back at her."

Gregory Hill, 47, the headmaster of Howard Junior School in nearby King's Lynn, took a group of eight pupils, two of whom were wrapped in the Union Jack, to the gate after the school children asked if they could pay their respects.

"We obviously can't take the whole school up so we took a delegation to lay a wreath that all the children contributed to and say prayers for the Queen and the royal family," he said.

John Houston, 72, remembered the

warm relationship he cultivated with the Queen after more than a decade of serving as her standard bearer during her visits to the area, as he stood in front of the gate in his merchant navy dress uniform, standard in hand.

Houston said: "If she saw me out in the street she would always wave to me, as would Philip. She saw my Rolls-Royce and said, 'is that for me?'

"The Queen always used to ask me, 'do you still have that Rolls?' and I would say 'yes, Ma'am' and she would say 'good, just checking', so it became a bit of a running joke between us."

*Additional reporting by Ali Mitib, Mark McLaughlin, Neil Johnston, Ben Ellery*

# Warm encounters that brightened thousands of lives

**Tom Whipple**

Thom Goddard was walking by the Norfolk coast when he came across a Range Rover stuck in the mud. As he approached, the window wound down and the occupant waved her car phone — this was 1994 — complaining of having no connection.

"Would one mind," she asked, "giving one a push?" So it was that Goddard, his mother and his stepfather helped their Queen get back on the road.

The roster is, by now, familiar. In her reign, the Queen met five popes and 13 US presidents and went on 152 state visits. She met Oscar winners and Nobel prize winners, opera singers and rock stars.

But she also met us. Across 21,000 official engagements and 96 years of daily life were hundreds of thousands of meetings unrecorded by history.

For her, it was another day at work. To those who met her, it was a moment they would remember forever.

Many were starstruck. Meg Reid remembers the 1994 royal visit to Canada, when she was seven. The Queen "exuded kindness" and she "felt very special to me" and "smelled very sweet," she recalled. "Maybe my brain has assigned the smell to peaches because of her peach outfit." Katherine Murphy, 54, who met her in Belfast in 2005, remembers how "she made each of us feel like we were the only ones in the room".

John Wilkinson met Elizabeth two years before she became Queen. In a comment on *The Times* website he explained how she was patron of Royal Russell School, Croydon, and had come to lay a foundation stone for a new building. Here, as an 11-year-old in a French lesson, he learnt his future sovereign's proficiency at the language the hard way. The French master had just instructed him to come to the front when "in walked Princess Elizabeth".

"Qu'est-ce que c'est?" asked the princess. "Oh! mademoiselle princess," replied a flustered Wilkinson. "A smiling response came: 'Non!' was the reply. She wasn't 'mademoiselle'. 'Je suis madame princesse. Je suis mariée a Phillip'

... At which point, in lowered tones, I was sent back to my desk."

Not everyone had the meeting they wanted. When she was seven, Helen Alexander lived as an expat in Beirut. "I was visiting my grandparents back in England, who lived near Ascot, and my granny said we could probably get a glimpse of her if we went to Ascot as she was likely to be going that day. Off we set in the rain and waited and waited."

Three wet hours later, they gave up. "I wrote an indignant letter to the Queen stating that I had been waiting in the rain for her for ages and that she hadn't turned up and that I had come all the way from Beirut," recalls Alexander. "I got a very kind letter in return saying she was sorry that I had been waiting in the rain... I showed it to absolutely everyone and it was definitely my most treasured possession."

Sue Westlake, from the Women's Royal Army Corps Association, met the Queen in 2003. The Queen Mother, the organisation's patron, had died, and the Queen was reducing her patronages. When the Queen came to visit, Westlake "took the bull by the horns".

"I said to her, 'I'm talking to you now, ma'am, as vice president of the WRAC ... I do appreciate that you're beginning to hand over some of your patronages, but I just wondered if you would consider making an exception and become a patron of our association.'

The Queen was patron of the WRAC until her death.

**Personal touch of an unforgettable Queen, letters, page 28**  
**Grieving nation's reaction a far cry from 1952, feedback, page 30**

#### YOUR SECOND CHANCE

Did you miss yesterday's historic edition of *The Times*? Find out how to obtain a copy

*Turn to page 30*



## Be clear and honest with children, say grief experts

**James Beal Social Affairs Editor**

Be open and honest with your children about the Queen's death and use clear language to explain it, experts said.

Charities have told how a public bereavement can stir up feelings and questions in children, regardless of whether they have had previous losses.

They recommended talking to children using age-appropriate language, including concepts that children understand, and avoiding euphemisms for death, which can confuse them.

Suzie Phillips, associate director of Winston's Wish, a child bereavement charity, said: "It's always best to be honest with children and share what we know — even if you don't know all of the information."

"You should be really clear with language. It's very easy for children to get lots of different messages about what has happened. Be clear on how they

understand those messages and be clear with words, even though they might seem harsh."

"Using 'dead' or 'died' to explain what happened can help children to have more of an understanding than 'she's gone' or 'passed away'. We find children can feel confused at language like that. Some children will think: 'Where's she gone? Is she coming back?'

Support charities also recommended giving children the opportunity to ask questions about the Queen, her life and her death. Zoe Williamson, from Child Bereavement UK, said: "A public bereavement can awaken a lot of questions about death and dying, even if they haven't had a personal one before.

"It can also cause them to become frightened about themselves or any member of their own family. Talk to the child about it. Make sure it is out in the open. They need to make sense of what happened. It shouldn't be hidden."

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# Thousands at St Paul's service

**David Sanderson**

This was the informal, democratic commemoration of the Queen's life, the dean designate of St Paul's Cathedral said. An event appropriate, one could say, for the People's Queen.

The 2,000 members of the public who had been alert enough in the morning to snap up one of the first-come first-served wristbands had been snaking around Paternoster Square outside the cathedral in London since early afternoon.

The Service of Prayer and Reflection was, according to the dean designate, the Very Rev Andrew Tremlett, a chance for the "general public to express collectively their understandable grief".

He said that while over the next few days there would be a large number of events involving civic dignitaries, yesterday's service would be "one of the most informal occasions".

"It is a completely democratic if random sample of people who happened to be in London," he said. "This is 2,000 members of the public who have simply turned up today and got a ticket to attend."

There were of course dignitaries. The prime minister Liz Truss at the front; the chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng, the foreign secretary James Cleverly, the Labour leader Keir Starmer and London mayor Sadiq Khan in a chatty knot elsewhere. London's lord mayor Vincent Keaveny was present, along with Ian Blackford, the SNP leader in Westminster, and Nadhim Zahawi.

There were no jokes but there were personal touches. The psalm commissioned from Herbert Howells for the Queen's Coronation in 1953, was sung.

*Farewell to Stromness*, written by the former Master of the Queen's Music, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, and played at the wedding of the Duke of Cambridge, now the Prince of Wales, as well as King Charles III and the Queen Consort's 2005 blessing, was played before the service began.

The Bishop of London recounted the coronation. The Right Rev Dame Sarah Mullally, said the Queen had been "anointed before God ... with sesame and olive oil containing orange flowers,

roses, jasmine, cinnamon and musk". "This act of anointing was so sacred that she was hidden from view and covered by a golden canopy: a rare moment of privacy in a life to be lived in full view of millions," she said. The bishop added: "A life lived in the service of others is a rare jewel. It is a jewel that Her Late Majesty the Queen wore as a crown."

The country's other female figurehead, the prime minister, had appeared shortly before 6pm. Tremlett had said beforehand that Truss's presence, and the absence of members of the Royal Family, "reinforces that this is about the general public". Truss read from Romans 14:7-12. Beneath the Whispering Gallery and the monumental murals of James Thornhill she told the congregation: "We do not live to ourselves and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's."

Mullally followed with the address.

The Queen, the bishop said, had been "this nation's unerring heartbeat through times of progress, joy and celebration, as well as in much darker and more difficult seasons."

She spoke of Her Majesty's "remarkable Christian faith about which she had increasingly spoken in recent years, referring to Jesus Christ as her anchor and role model".

"If Christ was her anchor, her husband, the late Prince Philip was, in her own words, Her Majesty's strength and stay. Yet even in the depths of her own mourning we saw once again her courage and her instinct for putting the needs of others first," she said. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, gave the Blessing.

Two moments stood out last night. When Edward Elgar's *Solemn Prelude* "In Memoriam" faded and, following a silence in the "sacred place where worship has been offered for 1,400 years", King Charles III's address filled the space, his words rising 366ft to the top of the dome and down under the vaulted ceilings of the Crypt.

And then one hour later — for the first time in seven decades — a choir of thousands sang loudly, and it seemed proudly, *God Save the King*.

## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

### Broadcast by HM The King

#### Hymn

*All my Hope on God is Founded*  
Words: Robert Bridges  
Tune: Herbert Howells

### Bidding

Given by the Very Rev Andrew Tremlett, dean-designate of St Paul's Cathedral

#### Anthem

*Behold O God our Defender*  
Herbert Howells

#### First reading

*Isaiah Ixi, 1-3,*  
Read by canon in residence, the Rev Canon Dr Neil Evans

#### Anthem

*Bring us, O Lord God, at our Last Awakening,*  
William Harris

#### Second reading

*Romans xiv, 7-12*, read by the prime minister, Liz Truss

#### Hymn

*O Thou who Camest from Above.*  
Words: Charles Wesley. Tune:  
Hereford, Samuel Sebastian Wesley

### Address

The Right Rev and Right Hon Dame Sarah Mullally,  
Bishop of London

### Anthem

*Nunc Dimittis* from Evening Service in G, Charles Villiers Stanford

### The Prayers

Hymn: *The Lord's my Shepherd*.  
Words: Scottish Psalter 1650.  
Tune: Crimond, Jessie Irvine

Act of Commendation, led by the Dean-Designate

Lament played on the bagpipes

### Anthem

Words: Wisdom iii, 1-2  
Music: Geraint Lewis

The Blessing Given by  
The Archbishop of Canterbury

### National Anthem

Organ Voluntary  
*Andante espressivo*  
from Sonata in G (Op.28)  
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)



# to mark ‘a rare jewel of a life’



A service of prayer and reflection was held at St Paul's Cathedral yesterday for the life of the Queen. About 2,000 members of the public attended the event, which featured the first official rendition of God Save the King. The service was closed with an address from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, above



**Love of horses lasted to the end with final call to her trainer**

**Jack Malvern, Brough Scott**

The Queen's love of horses shone through to the very end as she spoke enthusiastically with her trainer two days before her death.

Just over an hour before Boris Johnson arrived at Balmoral to resign as her 14th prime minister and two hours before she appointed Liz Truss the monarch telephoned Clive Cox, who looks after several of her stable of 50 racehorses.

Cox said she had been "sharp as a tack" as she discussed the prospects of her filly Love Affairs, which would go on to be her final winner in her career as a racehorse owner.

The Queen's last full day of activity was on Tuesday before doctors advised her to rest the following evening rather than conduct a privy council meeting.

The racing community spoke of the Queen as an influential figure who had breathed new life into their sport.

phone rang and it was Her Majesty on the line. We talked about the filly, how the race might pan out, how another horse of hers was doing in my stable, and about a couple of other things. She was as sharp as a tack."

Adam Kirby, in her famous purple and scarlet colours, rode Love Affairs to victory in the fillies' nursery handicap at Goodwood. The win crowned a career that brought her five classics and 24 Royal Ascot winners over 70 years. Highlights included the 2,000 Guineas

Highlights included the 2,000 Guineas with Pall Mall in 1958, the 1,000 Guineas and the French Oaks with Highclere in 1974 and the Oaks and St Leger with Dunfermline in 1977, her Silver Jubilee year.

The Queen's last full day of activity was on Tuesday before doctors advised her to rest the following evening rather than conduct a privy council meeting.

The racing community spoke of the Queen as an influential figure who had breathed new life into their sport.

champion jockey who rode more than 50 winners for the Queen, said racing had lost its greatest friend. Dettori said he remembered the excitement of riding her filly Phantom Gold in the Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot in 1995.

"It was undoubtedly one of my career highlights," he said. "It was such a great occasion and it was always a privilege to ride for Her Majesty. She was an incredible lady. I have been riding for the Queen for the last 30 years. She was such a special person and she had a great sense of humour.

"Her knowledge racing was incredible and

loved her horses and loved the breeding side. She knew the families inside out."



Willie Carson, who won the Oaks and St Leger for the Queen on Dunfermline, described her death as a colossal loss for the country and racing. He told the *Racing Post*, the daily sports publication: "Racing has just lost its biggest ambassador. She dedicated her life to service and gave everything to enhance this country of ours. But her hobby was the horse. She loved breeding thoroughbreds. Seeing them develop was her

them develop was her enjoyment in life.

"Winning a race obviously gave her great pleasure, but her biggest pleasure was the horse. She loved the horse and loved the turf and we have just lost somebody

“who can never be replaced. Dunfermline still ranks in the top three of my career. That was a fairytale that came true.”

The King is expected to inherit her stables and ownership of Royal Ascot but his wife is most likely to become a patron for the sport. She received a glowing reference last year from John Warren, the Queen's racing manager, who described Charles's interest as being at arm's length but Camilla as being "absolutely besotted by racing".

He added: "It is wonderful that they have opted to ... start to really focus on the breeding side of things".

The Queen recalled first taking an early interest in racehorses, when she was allowed to feel the "satiny softness of a thoroughbred" for the first time at Beckhampton.

She once told the trainer Richard Hannon Sr that she loved visiting his home because it was "one of the few places I go that doesn't smell of fresh paint".

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# Not a ball will be kicked as sport shows its respect

**Andrew Ellison, Fiona Hamilton  
Hannah Rogers, Fariha Karim**

Many parts of Britain shut down yesterday and big sporting events were postponed in a mark of respect to the Queen — despite the government's mourning guidance saying there is no obligation to cancel games or close venues.

### SPORT

England's Test match against South Africa at the Oval, the PGA Championship at Wentworth, Premiership rugby and British horse racing did not go ahead as planned, although the cricket, rugby and golf will resume today.

The Tour of Britain cycling event due to race through Gloucestershire yesterday was also cancelled, as were the final two stages through Dorset and the Isle of Wight due today and tomorrow.

This weekend's Premier League and home nation league fixtures were also postponed. The Premier League said it took the decision to mark the Queen's "extraordinary life and contribution to the nation" and that updates on future fixtures during the period of mourning would be provided "in due course".

The decision brought a backlash from fans and appeared to be at odds with official mourning advice for businesses released by the Cabinet Office.

In a statement posted online, it said: "There is no obligation to cancel or postpone events and sporting fixtures, or close entertainment venues during the National Mourning period."

It added: "As a mark of respect, and in keeping with the tone of National Mourning, organisers may wish to hold a period of silence and/or play the National Anthem at the start of events or sporting fixtures, and players may wish to wear black armbands."

The Talk TV presenter Piers Morgan took to social media to describe the Premier League's decision as "ridiculous".

He wrote: "Sporting events should go ahead. a) The Queen loved sport and b) It would be great to see/hear huge crowds singing the National Anthem in tribute to Her Majesty, as West Ham fans did so magnificently last night." The message was liked more than 50,000 times. However, Chief Superintendent David Evans of City of London

Police said some events needed patrols to ensure they were safe.

He said: "If there were circumstances where those policing assets cannot be deployed [because they were diverted to the mourning and funeral], that may in turn make conducting that secondary event less tenable. There will be some pinch points of policing resource in the ten-day [mourning] window."

Junior and amateur football clubs cancelled games and training in response to guidance by the FA. The Queen was patron of the association.

### CHARITY

Charity events were also hit. The Great North 5k run, which was due to be held last night, was cancelled as was this weekend's Richmond 10k event.

Other charity events postponed included the Wye Valley "mighty hike" in aid of Macmillan Cancer, and the Finchfield Three-Legged Race in Essex, which is run by the local cricket club in aid of local charities.

The New Forest marathon announced it would still go ahead tomorrow but asked runners to wear black clothes and a black armband in honour of the Queen.

The Great North Run, a half-marathon in Newcastle upon Tyne with 60,000 runners, also announced that it would still go ahead tomorrow, although participants were encouraged to "be mindful of the very sad and very special circumstances" in which the event will be taking place.

### CULTURE

Cultural institutions also closed their doors to honour the Queen, including the National Gallery, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and the National Army Museum. All six Historic Royal Palaces were also shut, including the Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace. Even Selfridges, the upmarket department store on Oxford Street, closed for the day, as did betting shops including Ladbrokes, Coral, Betfred, William Hill and Paddy Power.

Many cultural events due this weekend were also postponed or cancelled and venues closed.

The Last Night of the Proms, which was due to take place at the Royal

Albert Hall this evening, was cancelled. Hackney Carnival, expected to attract tens of thousands of revellers to east London on Sunday, was also axed.

On Thursday evening the Mercury Prize, which celebrates alternative music, was cancelled as guests arrived. The Royal Opera House also cancelled the opening night of its new production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.

Some cultural venues announced they would close for the duration of the period of mourning, including the Theatre Royal Winchester and Shakespeare's grave at Holy Trinity church, Stratford-upon-Avon.

The BBC also announced that Radio 2's Live in Leeds event, due to take place next weekend, would be cancelled, with ticketholders given refunds.

Not everywhere decided to close, however. The British Museum remained open with visitors encouraged to sign a book of condolence. Madame Tussauds was also open, although the Queen's figure was moved to the Royal Balcony, where flowers and a condolence book were placed to allow guests to record their thoughts and tributes.

London Fashion Week was in a state of flux as the industry cancelled catwalk shows and banned parties. The five-day event, due to start on Friday, pared back its schedule after Burberry and Raf Simons announced that their runway shows were off.

The British Fashion Council has not encouraged other designers to follow. Officially, it has said that shows and presentations can go ahead, but that brands should "respect the mood of the nation and period of national mourning".

### CONDOLENCES

The Met Office issued a statement on Twitter saying that in a mark of respect to the Queen, it would post daily weather forecasts only during the official mourning period instead of its usual more frequent output.

Extinction Rebellion, the environmental protest group, announced that it would postpone its Festival of Resistance, which had been planned for this weekend in London. "Occupying a Royal Park at this time would not be practical," it said in a statement.

**Grief takes non-royalists by surprise**

**Kat Lay** Health Editor

Even ardent republicans have reported becoming unexpectedly emotional after news of the Queen's death.

The announcement is likely to have reawakened feelings from earlier and more personal bereavements, experts believe.

With many families still feeling their own losses from the coronavirus pandemic, the impact of the Queen's death is likely to hit harder, mental health specialists have said.

Dr Trudi Seneviratne, registrar at the Royal College of Psychiatrists, said people might "feel shocked, anxious or fearful about changes they don't feel prepared for, or experience deep feel-

ings of loss and sadness". She said people should speak with someone they trusted, and could approach GPs for further support.

Linda Magistris, chief executive of the Good Grief Trust, said the organisation had been "inundated" since news of the Queen's death with comments "from people who are really surprised by the way they feel".

Magistris said: "You can see from the footage, it has really affected people quite profoundly across all ages, really all generations." Many people who lost an elderly relative during the pandemic "haven't had a chance to really acknowledge that grief".

She added: "We know that if your grief hasn't been supported early on,

and something happens like this or there's a second bereavement in the family or friends, it can have an incredibly profound effect on everything, your mental health and physical health."

However, she said the Queen's death might be triggering older feelings that were linked in a less obvious way. "It is so complicated, our feelings are mixed up in so many different ways."

The Good Grief Trust is an umbrella organisation that aims to point people towards support services, and Magistris believes people struggling with their feelings of loss should take the time to find an approach that works for them.

Magistris said: "There is no right or wrong way to grieve — there is no timeline for grief."





Pupils from Upton House School in Berkshire placed flowers outside Windsor Castle, near by, yesterday. Floral tributes were also left at a statue of Queen Elizabeth II at the entrance to Newmarket Racecourse in Suffolk. The artwork was designed by Etienne Millner for the Queen's 90th birthday. In the US, the New York Yankees held a moment of silence before their game against the Minnesota Twins at Yankee Stadium in the Bronx.



# Mourning guide sheds light on do's and don'ts

**Ben Clatworthy**

Mourners have been told not to cover portraits of the Queen or send flowers to royal residences in official government guidance.

The Cabinet Office published "national mourning guidance" yesterday. The document includes details of what individuals and businesses should do during the period of national mourning. It will last until the end of the day of the Queen's state funeral.

Mourners are also advised that there will be no physical books of condolence at royal residences and are directed to sign virtually on the royal website.

Businesses and individuals are told that while anyone can open a book of condolence, the royal household and the government will not be able to receive them once closed. Flowers, wreaths, or tributes should also not be sent to the location of the state funeral, royal residences or government offices.

The document states that there is no need for businesses to close or sporting events to be cancelled but acknowledges that "mourning is very personal and we anticipate individuals, families, communities and organisations may want to mark Her Majesty's demise in their own way". It says there is "no expectation on the public or organisations to observe specific behaviours during the mourning period".

The advice says that many organisations, including places of worship, will be planning to hold commemorative events. It says local authorities will support the co-ordination of events.

**BA pilots broke news to their passengers**

Entertainment venues are also permitted to remain open. However, the guidance does state that as a mark of respect, "organisations might wish to consider cancelling or postponing events or closing venues on the day of the state funeral".

The decision is "entirely at the discretion of individual organisations".

It warns that travel disruption is likely and public transport will be very busy in the days leading up to the state funeral. It advises that operators will publish further information for passengers.

Organisations may also choose to acknowledge the period of national mourning. The guidance, which is also for businesses, states: "Online communication channels can also be used to reflect the demise of Her Majesty and participate in the period of national mourning. Organisations can acknowledge the mourning period by making changes to the homepage of their website, for example, with the use of black edging or black banners."

A memorial flower garden will be created in Green Park, near Buckingham Palace, from today as part of plans for the period of mourning. In Windsor, flowers can be laid on the Long Walk at Cambridge Gate close to the town centre. There is also a location at Sandringham, as well as in Belfast, Edinburgh, Balmoral and Cardiff.

The advice also includes information on the flying of flags at half-mast and directs people to follow a government edict on how to do this correctly.

The biggest faux pas? Flying the Union Jack the wrong way up.

**Satire shelved but Gogglebox will play on**

**Fariha Karim, James Jackson**

The biting political satire *Have I Got News for You* was cancelled last night, but Channel 4's *Gogglebox* kept on air to cheer the nation up after the death of the Queen.

As television channels hastily overhauled their schedules to make way for shows which in some cases had been years in production, the BBC and ITV announced that some favourites would be lost.

A total of 33 million people watched news of the Queen's death across major broadcasters yesterday, with BBC One's viewing figures hitting 9.83 million at 6.30pm as Huw Edwards announced she had "peacefully" died at Balmoral.

Bosses at Channel 4 also amended listings, but decided not to cancel *Gogglebox*, the show which films people watching and reacting to television shows. The channel said in a statement: "Channel 4 exists to offer viewers an alternative and that is particularly important at times like this. *Gogglebox* is a much loved national institution and it will air as planned."

The BBC announced that last night's and tonight's Proms had been cancelled. Tonight would have been the Last Night, the celebration concluding the classical music festival. It is the first time since the Second World War that the final night has not taken place.

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# To the very last, Her Majesty

**Valentine Low**

When the Queen travelled to Balmoral at the end of July for the start of her traditional Scottish summer break, at least one former Palace insider speculated that she would never return.

"She loves Balmoral," they said. "She is not very well. Why would she want to come back if it is a place she loves?"

As the weeks progressed, that came to look increasingly plausible. Although Buckingham Palace was at pains not to provide a running commentary on the Queen's health, it became clear from her frequent absences that all was not well.

On July 28 the Queen was unable to attend the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. Instead she was represented by Prince Charles, who read out a message that his mother had earlier placed in the Games baton.

Just over a week later, her traditional welcome to Balmoral Castle — after an initial spell at Craigowan Lodge, which had been specially modified for her — was held in private inside the castle grounds.

Normally she would be greeted by crowds of well-wishers outside the gates of her Scottish retreat, where she would inspect a guard of honour from Balaclava Company, 5th Battalion, the Royal Regiment of Scotland, as TV cameras, reporters and photographers record the scene. A source said at the time: "This is a change in line with events being adapted for Her Majesty's comfort."

It was becoming apparent that the Queen's frailty meant she would attend fewer and fewer events in public. That was underlined at the beginning of September when the Queen missed the Braemar Gathering. The Highland Games event is normally an absolute fixture in the Queen's summer diary, and she had only missed it on a handful of occasions.

Once again, it was said the decision to pull out was taken "for the Queen's comfort" as a result of her continuing "episodic mobility problems".

However, for all her health issues, it seemed that even at the age of 96 she was still driven by a strong sense of duty.

Ever since Boris Johnson resigned as leader of the Conservative Party, it had been known that he would step down as prime minister on September 6. The Queen was determined that she would be available to perform her constitutional duty, and accordingly at the beginning of August her officials let it be known that it was "business as usual": the Queen would come down to London in order to accept Johnson's resignation and appoint the new prime minister.

She was making it quite clear that she wanted to carry on working for as long as she was physically able.

In the end, that was not to be. Less than a week before the prime ministerial handover, the Palace said that the Queen would not be travelling down from Scotland after all, but would instead hold her audiences with the outgoing and incoming Tory leaders at Balmoral.

It would be the first time that a prime minister had been appointed at Balmoral since the Marquess of Salisbury in 1885. As the former BBC royal correspondent Peter Hunt noted, it was "yet another reminder of her advanced age and increasing frailty". He added: "Despite this, the Queen remains determined to carry out her core duties."

"Appointing a new prime minister is not something that can easily be passed to Prince Charles, a king-in-waiting."

True to her word, on Tuesday the



**Harry had joined Camilla at Balmoral while Catherine, now Princess of Wales, remained in Windsor**

Queen "saw off her 14th prime minister and welcomed her 15th", as Johnson told the Commons yesterday. He said of his audience with the Queen: "She was as radiant and as knowledgeable and as fascinated by politics and as ever I can remember. And as wise in her advice as anyone I know, if not wiser."

Making her first public appearance in 47 days to appoint Liz Truss as her 15th prime minister, she was said to have been in good humour, and had commented on the dark skies overhead. Wearing a grey cardigan, and a pleated skirt in Balmoral tartan, she looked cheerful as she was photographed welcoming Truss. She held her walking stick as she leant forward to shake hands.

But for all the positive imagery that

emerged from the occasion, meeting her two prime ministers — as well as conferring an honour on her outgoing communications secretary, Donal McCabe, and reading her red boxes — took its toll on the Queen.

The following day, the Queen was told by her doctors to rest. That meant missing the Privy Council meeting that had been scheduled for Wednesday evening, during which the new prime minister would have taken her oath as First Lord of the Treasury and Cabinet ministers would have been sworn into their roles and made privy counsellors, if not already appointed as one in the past. On Thursday she took a turn for

the worse. The first public sign that something was amiss came shortly before 12.30pm when Nadhim Zahawi, the Cabinet Office minister, entered the House of Commons and whispered to Truss. Notes were passed to the Speaker and the Labour front bench.

A series of urgent phone calls had been made from Balmoral to various members of the royal family throughout the morning. Charles and Camilla, who had both been staying at Dumfries House in Ayrshire, immediately decided to cancel their engagements and head straight to the Queen's side.

The helicopter that had been due to take Camilla to a cancer support centre in Airdrie was used to bring the couple to Balmoral instead. They arrived in the morning, in time to see the Queen as her life was drawing to a close.

The Princess Royal was already there, having stayed overnight after carrying out engagements in the area.

At about 12.30pm the Palace issued a statement saying the Queen was under medical supervision at Balmoral, with royal doctors admitting they were concerned for her health.

The rest of the family was also rush-

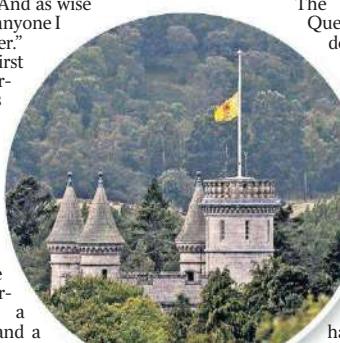
ing to Balmoral. An aircraft had been arranged to take the Queen's other children — the Earl of Wessex, accompanied by the countess, and the Duke of York — up to Aberdeen. They were joined by Prince William. His wife remained with their children, who started at their new school this week.

Buckingham Palace has not confirmed the time, or cause, of the Queen's death. But it is thought that by the time the group arrived at Balmoral at 5.06pm, in a car driven by William, it was too late.

Finally, at 6.30pm, the Palace issued a statement saying the Queen had died peacefully during the afternoon.

The Duke of Sussex, who was visiting the UK and had been due to carry out an engagement that evening, also flew up to Balmoral. He arrived shortly before 8pm, more than an hour after his grandmother's death had been announced.

By the time he got there, his and Meghan's Archewell website homepage had been replaced with a blacked-out page with the words: "In loving memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022."



**The Lion Rampant flies at half-mast over Balmoral Castle yesterday**

# was intent on doing her duty



## Queen 'in good spirits' for last photo

**Harry Taylor**

The photographer who captured the moment the Queen met Liz Truss has said that monarch seemed in good spirits and chatted about the weather during her final photocall.

Jane Barlow, a Press Association photographer, was at Balmoral Castle on Tuesday as the Queen greeted the new Conservative Party leader and asked her to form a government.

The picture of the monarch wearing a beige cardigan, tartan skirt and holding a walking stick in her drawing room turned out to be the last time she was photographed before her death two days later.

Barlow, who said that the image was not posed, described spending a few moments with the Queen before Truss arrived.

"When I came into the room with the Queen's press secretary she was very smiley, and then moved across the room into position, and there was a wee while we had to wait for Liz Truss to be



Jane Barlow took the last picture of the Queen in her drawing room at Balmoral Castle

announced," she said. "She just commented on how dark it seemed outside because the weather had closed in and she seemed in very good spirits.

"Obviously she was very frail but she was very smiley. She greeted Truss with another big smile and at that point I then move out

of the room." Earlier the Queen had met Boris Johnson, the outgoing prime minister. After Truss arrived, the photographer left so the private audience could begin.

Barlow had previously photographed the Queen before a meeting with Nicola Sturgeon, the Scottish first minister, over the summer. She also captured the monarch as she took part in official engagements including the Ceremony of the Keys and the Reddendo Parade.

Barlow, who has been a staff photographer with the news agency in Scotland for six years, said: "It's a real privilege to be able to take that picture, an honour and a privilege. It's like that for a lot of our job."

"I was there to photograph her meeting the new prime minister but for me the best picture was the one of the Queen on her own. And it has obviously become more significant now."



## King stresses love for Harry in hint at reconciliation

**Charlotte Wace**

The King used his first address to the nation to express his "love" for the Duke and Duchess of Sussex as they "continue to build their lives overseas".

His words hinted at a reconciliation between Harry and his wife, Meghan, and the royal family after months of tension. It also indicated an acceptance of their choice to step down as working royals in early 2020.

The King announced that he had created the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and Cambridge as the Prince and Princess of Wales before he made the touching reference to his younger son.

"I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas," he said.

His words followed Harry, 37, and Meghan, 41, deciding to extend their stay in the UK after the death of the Queen. The Sussexes had been at the end of a brief working visit to Europe when the Queen's health deteriorated.

They are likely to remain in the UK until after the state funeral. It is believed that the couple's children, Archie, three, and Lilibet, one, have stayed in California.

Harry was seen leaving Balmoral shortly before 8.30am yesterday, the first of the royal family to depart. His brother, Prince William, left a short time afterwards. Harry took a British Airways flight from Aberdeen to Heathrow, and is now thought to be at Frogmore Cottage in Windsor, the property kept by the Sussexes.

Before boarding the plane, he had appeared to comfort an airport worker

and placed a hand tenderly on her shoulder.

Harry travelled to Scotland separately from his other relatives on Thursday. He was in the air when Buckingham Palace announced the Queen's death at 6.30pm. The plane, which was 20 minutes late taking off from Luton, landed in Aberdeen at 6.46pm and Harry arrived at Balmoral just before 8pm.

William, the Duke of York and the Earl and Countess of Wessex arrived earlier but also after the Queen had died.

Earlier on Thursday, a spokesman had said Harry and Meghan would be travelling to Balmoral together. It was later confirmed that Meghan had stayed behind and could join her husband at a later date.

William's wife, now the Princess of Wales, had also stayed behind. The decision for only the brothers to make the journey was thought to have been due to protocol.

The Sussexes arrived in the UK last weekend. After a brief visit on Tuesday to Düsseldorf, where the Invictus Games, the event that the duke founded, will be held next year, they returned to Britain. Harry and Meghan had planned to attend an awards ceremony on Thursday, which would have been the last engagement of their European visit. Harry had been due to speak at the ceremony put on by WellChild, of which he is patron.

The couple's trip to the UK was their first since the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. It is not yet known whether they plan to make any public appearances or if any of their projects, such as Harry's memoir, are being postponed.

## Police mindful to threat of the fixated and dangerous

**Fiona Hamilton**

Royal obsessives are being carefully vetted as part of a meticulous policing operation planned for decades.

Police are identifying anyone who is fixated on the royal family and could present a threat so they can be visited by mental health workers.

Any fixated individuals who manage to travel to the capital during the mourning period will be subjected to "close monitoring", with officers assigned to follow them. Specialist search teams will scour the main buildings involved in the mourning, with thousands of officers involved in the security operation.

Yesterday City of London police lifted the lid on the operation. Some staff have been working on it full time for the past years to ensure it runs smoothly. It will be a key test for Sir Mark Rowley, who starts as Metropolitan Police commissioner on Monday. Chief Superintendent Dai Evans, who has been part of the City of London force's planning for eight years, said that it was the country's largest ever policing and security operation.

Evans said that after the Queen's death was formally announced on Thursday night specialist search teams entered St Paul's to secure it before the service. Yesterday they moved to the Royal Exchange. Later in the operation, City of London officers will help the Met carry out searches and secure Westminster Abbey.

Barriers to stop a vehicle being driven into a crowd are being placed on the roads, and uniformed and plain-clothes officers will mingle with crowds. There will be marksmen on rooftops.

Evans said: "We will always plan for the safety of the event, which will include those people obsessed with the monarchy."

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# Truss leads MP tributes to 'one of world's great leaders'

**Henry Zeffman** Associate Political Editor  
**Steven Swindford** Political Editor  
**Chris Smyth** Whitehall Editor

The prime minister hailed Queen Elizabeth II as "one of the greatest leaders the world has ever known" as MPs paid tribute yesterday. In a special session of parliament, MPs wore black to deliver hours of tributes in an atmosphere that was at times sombre but also dissolved into laughter at tales of the late Queen's mischievous humour.

Two former prime ministers sat behind Liz Truss, invited to form her government by the Queen only four days ago, as MPs also expressed their hopes for the reign of the King.

Truss (C, South West Norfolk) said that Britain must show that it does not fear what lies ahead after "our lives changed forever". She said the nation owed the King "loyalty and devotion", heralding a "new Carolean age".

Truss said: "On the death of her father, King George VI, Winston Churchill said the news had stilled the clatter and traffic of 20th-century life in many lands. Now 70 years later in the tumult of the 21st-century, life has paused again. Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was one of the greatest leaders the world has ever known."

Recounting her audience on Tuesday, Truss said that the Queen had "generously shared with me her deep experience of government, even in those last days".

She said that the King faced an "awesome responsibility" and paid tribute to his "profound contribution to his work on conservation, education and his tireless diplomacy".

She added: "All of us in this house will support him as he takes our country forward to a new era of hope and progress, our new Carolean age. And in that spirit I say God save the King."

**Sir Keir Starmer** (Lab, Holborn & St Pancras) said that the nation had lost "its stillest point, its greatest comfort, at precisely the time we need those things most". He invoked Philip Larkin, who upon the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 wrote of her reign: "In times when nothing stood/ but worsened or grew strange/ there was one constant good/ she did not change."

Starmer said: "It feels like we are once again in a moment in our history where — as Larkin put it — things are 'growing strange'. When everything is spinning, a nation requires a still point, when times are difficult, it requires comfort, and when direction is hard to find, it requires leadership." He continued: "We must always remember one of the great lessons of our Queen's reign: that we are always better when we rise above the petty, the trivial."

Starmer's concluding words of "God save the King" were echoed by the cabinet ministers seated opposite.

The Speaker, **Sir Lindsay Hoyle**, and the clerks wore mourning attire. As they processed into the chamber the Serjeant at Arms, Hoyle's trainbearer and his private secretary carried black swords last used in 1952 upon the death of George VI. **The Rev Canon Tricia Hillas**, the Speaker's chaplain, led the

Commons in prayer before Hoyle invited MPs to stand for a minute's silence. Hoyle described how the Queen had seen ten Speakers, 18 general elections and 57 parliamentary sessions.

**Boris Johnson** (C, Uxbridge & South Ruislip) recalled the BBC filming him for use in the event of her death. "They requested that I should talk about her in the past tense," he said. "And I'm afraid I simply choked up. I'm not easily moved to tears, but I was so overcome with sadness that I had to ask them to go away." Describing the Queen as "Elizabeth the Great", he said that one of her defining qualities was her "single-bar electric fire, Tupperware-using refusal to be grand". He said: "Unlike us politicians, with our outriders and our armour-plated convoys I can tell you as a direct eyewitness that she drove herself in her own car, with no detectives and no bodyguards, bouncing at alarming speed over the Scottish landscape, amazing the ramblers and the tourists we encountered."

**Theresa May** (C, Maidenhead) said that the Queen was "quite simply the most remarkable person I have ever met". She drew laughter with an anecdote about a picnic at Balmoral during which she dropped some cheese. "I had a split-second decision to make. I picked up the cheese, put it on the plate and put it on the table," she said. "I turned round and realised my every move was being watched very carefully by the Queen. I looked at her, she looked at me and she just smiled. And the cheese remained on the table."

**Ian Blackford** (SNP, Ross, Skye & Lochaber) said: "For many in Scotland, she was Elizabeth, Queen of Scots." Blackford said he was thinking of Truss, "just days into office and having to come to terms with the enormity of the loss of the head of state".

**Sir Ed Davey** (Lib Dem, Kingston & Surbiton) said: "She tied our nations together, embodying an unwavering pride in our country, showing us that patriotism is not defined by political allegiance and reminding us of the many things that bind us all together".

**Harriet Harman** (Lab, Camberwell & Peckham), mother of the House, noted that she was "a woman starting her reign in what was emphatically then a man's world". To nods from female MPs, including Truss, Harman praised the Queen's "determination and courage". She said: "The prime ministers she dealt with were mostly men, mostly twice her age. Things were very different. A huge change has taken place during her reign."

In the Lords the former Labour cabinet minister **Lord Blunkett** told peers how the Queen came to his aid after he ended up facing the wrong way during his initiation as a member of the privy council. Blunkett said that he had left his guide dog, because "dogs aren't very good at showing you where to kneel on cushions". He added: "I moved across the room and I did manage to hit the cushion, but facing the wrong way. Her Majesty in a gracious and careful and never patronising way managed to gently, by touching my arm, shift me round so that I could just brush her hand."



## Quentin Letts

### Poets and Paddington on day of solemn grandeur

Political Sketch



**L**ongfellow, Larkin and Shakespeare were thrown into the mix as MPs sought the words to salute the late Queen. We had Tennyson, Auden, Donne. Even Paddington Bear. She would have

liked that. Westminster had donned its mourning veil. The Abbey's bells tolled and a distant blast of field gun salutes lent a certain battlefield romance to the day.

The Commons met at noon for ten hours of tributes, with more to follow. Liz Truss, in a limpid soliloquy, recalled Churchill's observation that George VI's death "stilled the clatter and traffic of 20th-century life in many lands". Not that anything can still the inclination of MPs to pay tribute.

Thursday's skittering uncertainty had yielded to something purpler. There was a grandeur to the grief. The new prime minister, heard in utter silence, noted the "awesome responsibility" facing King Charles. She hailed "our new Carolean age", taking care to negotiate that unfamiliar adjective. Will it catch on? Same with Boris Johnson's coinage of "Elizabeth the Great". Why not? Alfred the Great only reigned 31 years. Peanuts compared with the innings that just ended.

Penny Mordaunt, the leader of the Commons, frowned with sadness. Suella Braverman, the home secretary, had chin on hand. Kemi Badenoch, trade secretary, bowed her head. Truss ended her speech, as did many, with "God save the King!". In an overflow gallery upstairs Tom Tugendhat, the security minister, was one of several to echo it: "God save the King!"

The clerks, perhaps taking their



A sombre House of Commons observes a minute's silence for the Queen. The former prime ministers Boris Johnson and Theresa May were among those to offer tributes in the chamber, with Liz Truss also holding a special cabinet meeting to honour her



cue from Michael Fabricant (C, Lichfield), had reverted to their horsehair wigs. The Speaker and his secretary were in ceremonial garb too, arms adorned with white sleeve-covers that made them look like naval artillery crew, or traffic police in an Ealing comedy.

Sir Keir Starmer said the Queen had not only reigned over us but had lived alongside us, and that was why she was loved. It was he who quoted Larkin's lines about the Queen being the one thing that never changed in a spinning world.

Johnson opened a vivid speech by admitting that when the BBC some months ago tried to record a clip of him for its stock obituary of the Queen, he had choked up and cancelled the filming session. He went on to recall that one Middle East leader genuinely believed it was the Queen under that parachute at the opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympics. Her Majesty hooted with

delight when told. This story won the day's first laugh, a necessary loosening of tension.

The ranks of mourning crepe made for a jolting sight. There was more black than at a gathering of undertakers, or even at the offices of *Vogue*. A few of the men had dusted down their morning coats, among them the Father of the House, Sir Peter Bottomley (C, Worthing West). His waistcoat was possibly a little skimpy. A trip to Moss Bros may be advisable before the funeral. Bottomley, to his great credit, spoke for just 30 seconds.

Amid the uniformity of the scene there were few specks of difference. Thérèse Coffey, deputy prime minister, wore a teal scarf. Chris Law (SNP, Dundee West) flashed orange brogues. Ian Blackford, Westminster leader of the SNP, was in a magnificent kilt. Slough's Tan Singh Dhesi (Lab) had selected a black turban. Luke Evans (C,

Bosworth) was even wearing a black shirt. We haven't seen that sort of thing since the days of Oswald Mosley.

As backbenchers dropped chins to chests and sought the piercing aperçus, repetition was not unknown. There were several mentions of the Queen's dazzling smile and her two-bar electric fire. Sir Iain Duncan Smith (C, Chingford) disclosed that it had a thoroughly dangerous-sounding cardboard lining. It seems a wonder Buckingham Palace never went up in flames.

Chris Bryant (Lab, Rhondda) slipped briefly out of his vicar voice and said "there have been other queens — I've known a few". And Lady May (C, Maidenhead) made the House laugh as she recalled once dropping the cheese at a royal barbecue. Theresa the humorist. What an astonishing week it has been.

# Parties may call off their conferences

Steven Swinford, Henry Zeffman

The Conservatives and Labour are weighing up whether to cancel their annual conferences after the Queen's death, a move that could mean they miss out on millions of pounds.

The Labour Party conference is due to begin on Sunday, September 25, possibly only a week after the funeral, and last until Wednesday, September 28.

The national period of mourning will have concluded but the royal mourning declared yesterday by the King could be continuing.

The Conservative Party conference is to begin the following week on Sunday, October 2, and last until Wednesday, October 5.

The Liberal Democrat conference is especially at risk, starting a week today on September 17. The Trade Union Congress has postponed its annual gathering which was to start tomorrow.

The conferences are important for each party to set out their political direction for the year ahead, with speeches from leaders and senior members. The Tory conference was important for Liz Truss as she tries to cement her authority over the party she leads. The conferences are also lucrative occasions for the parties.

Businesses, charities and other organisations pay for access to the conferences as well as stalls in the exhibition hall where delegates can be lobbied.

A government source said: "There is a lot of pressure to scrap them. It's a major financial event. Discussions are ongoing."

The Labour Party is thought to have had early discussions about its conference but no decision has been reached. Cancellation is thought to be unlikely but possible.

A party source said that if the Conservatives cancelled their conference, Labour members would not necessarily have to cancel theirs.

Before the Queen's death the Commons had been due to sit until September 22 then enter conference recess before returning on October 17.

With Truss's plans for her first weeks as prime minister in flux, opposition

## Carolean is a careful choice

Jack Blackburn  
History Correspondent

Liz Truss has heralded the start of a "Carolean age". Her word was chosen carefully.

The Carolean era refers to the reign of King Charles II, the "merry monarch". Truss was well-advised not to call it a "Caroline" era, which refers to Charles I, who was executed by parliament after the Civil War. Both come from *Carolus*, the Latinised version of Charles, a name with roots in a Proto-Germanic word *Karlaz*, meaning "free man".

The monarchy was restored with Charles II, whose reign led to pubs and theatres reopening after the puritanical interregnum, though it was blighted by the plague and Great Fire of London.

King Charles III was rumoured to have considered taking another regnal name, perhaps wary of the precedent of Charles I.

figures believe that she might want to convene MPs towards the end of the month to pass legislation on energy bills.

There are also questions about whether the UN general assembly in New York could be postponed.

Leaders from around the world are expected to attend the Queen's funeral, which will be held in the same week as the general assembly. This presents a potential logistical problem for many international leaders.

Truss is also expected to delay her plans for a tax-cutting fiscal event which was to be held before the end of this month but is now likely to take place next month.

The prime minister is also likely to delay any potential trips to Ireland and Ukraine.

## Ex-prime ministers recall monarch who loved a joke

Steven Swinford, Chris Smyth

The Queen had a "twinkle in her eye" and enjoyed catching up on gossip as well as sharing her experience during her weekly meetings with her prime ministers.

Sir John Major told the BBC that his memories of the meetings were "different from what people might imagine", describing them as one of the best parts of his job.

He told the BBC: "There was a great deal of amusement in them, there was a great deal of humour in them, there was a great deal of gossip in them."

"I think people would have been extraordinarily surprised if they realised the depth of information the Queen had about the lives of people in every conceivable part of the United Kingdom. She was always extraordinarily well briefed. And on foreign affairs, she would always say if there was a difficulty of a foreign leader, 'Well, I met him many years ago' or 'I knew his father'."

"There was always a wise word to be had," Theresa May told MPs. "These were not meetings with a high and

mighty monarch, but a conversation with a woman of experience, knowledge and immense wisdom."

Asked by the BBC about the Queen's sense of humour, May said: "There was often that twinkle in the eye and that magnificent smile that would break out, that would calm people's nerves and made so many people feel at ease."

Gordon Brown said that she was "endlessly patient" during their discussions. "She was conscientious, she was considerate, she was caring, she had a great sense of humour," he said. "But most of all what shone through was her complete and utter dedication to the country and the constitution."

Boris Johnson said that "she helped to comfort and guide" her prime ministers as well as the nation. "She had the patience and the sense of history to see that troubles come and go, and that disasters are seldom as bad as they seem."

Sir Tony Blair recalled having lunch with her at Windsor Castle a few months ago at a ceremony. He said: "We sat next to each other and she was on sparkling form as we talked — warm, gracious, humorous and spirited."

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# Family will walk behind coffin

Valentine Low, Emma Yeomans

Fiona Hamilton Crime & Security Editor

In ten days the Queen will become the first British monarch to have a funeral service held at Westminster Abbey since George II in 1760.

Since George III the funerals of British kings and queens have taken place at St George's Chapel in Windsor.

In a break with tradition the Queen decided that hers should be held in the larger and more public surroundings of Westminster Abbey, where the coronation of every English monarch has been held since William I in 1066. After five

days lying in state in Westminster Hall, and a brief period of lying in rest at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh, on Monday, September 19 the Queen's coffin is expected to be moved to Westminster Abbey, although the date of the funeral has not been confirmed.

At about 10.30am — though the timings may change — a bearer party will move the coffin to the state gun carriage, which will be outside the north door of Westminster Hall.

Naval ratings using ropes instead of horses will pull the carriage from the Hall to Westminster Abbey. Members of the royal family will follow the coffin

as they did at the funeral for Diana, Princess of Wales, and for Prince Philip. The military will also join the procession.

Like all her predecessors for the past 200 years, the Queen will be buried in Windsor. After the funeral service her coffin will be taken in procession to the castle, where a committal service will be held at St George's Chapel.

That afternoon service will be the last part of her funeral arrangements to be televised; later in the evening there will be a private burial service, attended only by close members of her family.

George III was buried in 1820 at



A royal funeral service has not been held at Westminster Abbey since 1760

Windsor, which had enjoyed a revival under his reign. He was encouraged to live there by Queen Charlotte and was responsible for the royal vault where ten British sovereigns are buried.

The Queen's final resting place will be the King George VI memorial chapel, an annexe to the main chapel, where her mother and father were buried, along with the ashes of her sister, Princess Margaret.

Prince Philip's coffin will move from the royal vault to the memorial chapel to join the Queen.

The Queen's decision to use both Westminster Abbey and St George's



Members of the Honourable Artillery Company fire the Death Gun Salute over the Thames. There were 96 rounds — one for every year of Elizabeth II's life. Bells tolled at Westminster Abbey, where the

## Duke overseeing monarch's funeral has ceremony in his genes

Valentine Low

He has run a bottled gas company and a joinery business, and in his younger days was a budding racing driver. Over the next ten days, however, Edward William Fitzalan-Howard — better known as the 18th Duke of Norfolk — will face the toughest challenge of his life as he takes charge of the ceremonial arrangements for the Queen's funeral.

It is one of the curiosities of British

ceremonial life that the job of overseeing such occasions as royal funerals, coronations and the state opening of parliament is a hereditary post that has been handed down through the Dukes of Norfolk for more than 300 years: as holders of the ancient office of Earl Marshal they have overseen royal funerals since 1672.

According to one profile, he has overseen proceedings "with a mixture of flair, timing, absolute precision and great humour". Another source who has worked closely with him said: "Eddie has bags of aristocratic self-confidence. I have always been really impressed at the way he leads the rehearsals for the state opening of parliament."

They go back even further than that, although not in an unbroken line: the very first Earl Marshal of England — before that there was a mere Lord Mar-

shal — was the 1st Duke of Norfolk in 1386. The other curiosity is that he is a Roman Catholic in charge of a Protestant occasion: Catholics may not be able to accede to the throne, but they can bury the sovereign and arrange their coronation.

The duke, who is known as Eddie to his friends, has been preparing for such an occasion all his life, and at the age of 65 has the experience of having handled the state opening of parliament for two decades.

He will not have to carry the burden of organising the funeral, which has, of course, been decades in the planning, by himself. Behind the scenes one key figure who has done the bulk of the


**The 18th Duke of Norfolk, whose forebears have overseen royal funerals since 1672**

work is a lifelong courtier called Jonathan Spencer, who was deputy controller of the Lord Chamberlain's office at Buckingham Palace.

The duke will, however, be uneasy at being the focus of public attention. That discomfort reached its peak in 2011, when, after two decades of marriage, he

separated from his wife, Georgina, with whom he has five children. The gossip columns had a field day.

He was not always portrayed well. One friend — hers, clearly — was quoted as saying: "They were a lovely couple when they first got together, though Georgina was always the best part of the partnership. He has always been pompous — though not the arrogant lump he has become — but she is a free spirit and it seemed to work."

There were reports that the separation led to them occupying different wings of Arundel Castle. He is said to have had the east wing while the duchess, who is five years younger, had the west. However, according to another account she moved out completely. The split was so acrimonious that they even missed the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge because they could not bear to be in the same room.

Since then there seems to have been some kind of reconciliation between

the duke and duchess. The Queen was said to have been "absolutely thrilled" at the news.

There is, however, a perception that the duke does not quite measure up to the exacting standards set by his father, Miles, the 17th duke, who won a Military Cross during the Second World War, or indeed the 16th duke, Bernard, Miles's cousin, who helped to organise the coronations of George VI in 1937 and the Queen in 1953, as well as three state funerals and the investiture of Charles as Prince of Wales.

The 18th duke will, no doubt, be glad when it is all over. The journalist Peter Paterson told how, after the last Coronation, a colleague who had attended most of the 16th duke's daily briefings later saw him on a racecourse and greeted him warmly.

"The duke looked at him with extreme distaste," wrote Paterson, "and muttered, 'Thank God, I don't have to talk to you people any more.'"

# to Westminster Abbey service

Chapel for her final journey was influenced by the fact that the abbey is arguably more fitting as a public stage for Britain's most significant funeral for more than a century.

It is larger — it has an official capacity of about 2,000, although has accommodated as many as 8,000, compared with 800 at St George's — and is more accustomed to dealing with the demands of live television broadcasts. Its central London location could also be considered a better place for large crowds to gather.

Throughout her seven decades on the throne the Queen was used to the

idea of the abbey as the setting for many of the most important events of her life. It was where she was crowned, where she married, and where two of her children — Princess Anne and Prince Andrew — and her sister were married.

In recent years it has also been the venue for several royal funerals. The Queen Mother's funeral was held there in 2002, as was that of Diana, Princess of Wales, five years earlier. The funeral of Earl Mountbatten of Burma, who was Prince Philip's uncle and a second cousin once removed to the Queen, was held there in 1979.

For the Queen's funeral, with heads

of state and other dignitaries arriving from all over the world, police are putting together the most significant protective security arrangement in history.

While dispensation can be given for protection officers from official foreign government agencies to carry weapons in specific circumstances, this is rare. Most of their security details will be prohibited from carrying firearms and other weapons such as CS spray. It means that the job will fall to officers in the Metropolitan police's protection command and specialist officers from other forces around the country who

will be called to London. Chief Superintendent Dai Evans, who has been planning the operation for several years at City of London police, said that there was a huge protective security operation. "Having so many foreign leaders and overseas heads of states, probably on a scale never seen before — there is a huge plan," he said. "The numbers being offered protection concurrently will be a real challenge, but one that is tackled through all the national resources that we have."

Installing road barriers will be one of the first tasks in anticipation of crowds lining the streets to see the funeral

cortège pass by. There will be a "significant armed operation", with officers on patrol and queues organised so that people are not crushed and lorries and cars cannot be driven into them.

Rooftop snipers will be in place while the cortège is moving; it will have a helicopter escort anywhere outside of London.

Security screening such as bag checks for knives and other weapons will be carried out in some areas and the preparations will also involve the British Transport Police, royal parks staff, Transport for London and Westminster council.

## Details of wealth stay secret along with Queen's will

### Valentine Low

Two questions arise after the death of the Queen, and both are unlikely ever to be answered, at least not with certainty: how much was she worth? And who did she leave her money to?

That leads on to an even more controversial question: why does the King not have to pay inheritance tax on his mother's estate?

Although the Queen was often described as one of the wealthiest women in the world, the truth is that no one really knew how much she was worth. And they will not find out now, because her will is certain to remain a secret.

For more than a century the wills of the sovereign have remained private. So, too, have the wills of other members of the royal family: as when Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother died in 2002, leaving an estimated fortune of £50 million, and when Princess Margaret died a month earlier.

As a court was told during a legal battle over Margaret's will: "The primary reason and purpose of sealing royal wills is to protect the privacy of the sovereign."

The Queen's will, however, is in a category of its own. For technical legal reasons — because she is the source of legal authority, essentially — her will does not have to be granted probate, unlike all other wills. That means it does not have to be published.

The one thing that can be said with certainty is that she was not as rich as people thought. Many of the sources of her supposed wealth — the palaces, the Crown Jewels, the fabulous collections of works of art — were not her private property but held in trust for future generations.

In 2015 the Bloomberg Billionaires Index estimated that she was worth £277 million, a mere 3 per cent of the wealth of the richest Briton, the Duke of Westminster. The same year The Sunday Times Rich List calculated her wealth at £340 million.

The Bloomberg figure included £49 million of investments, £101 million inherited from her mother and property of £71 million. The stamp collection that was created by George V was said to be worth £48 million and the royal stud at Sandringham £6.5 million.

The major source of the sovereign's personal money, however, is the Duchy of Lancaster. It is the sovereign's private estate, existing purely to give the king

or queen an income: in the financial year ending March 31 it was valued at about £652 million, and generated a net surplus of £24 million.

As it is an inalienable asset of the Crown, it would not even appear in the Queen's will: it is simply passed from sovereign to sovereign, without any tax being paid.

Why is no inheritance liable on her personal wealth? This goes back to 1993, and the deal struck with John Major's government in which the Queen agreed for the first time to pay income tax. As part of that agreement it was stipulated that sovereign-to-sovereign bequests would be exempt from inheritance tax. The same applies to bequests from the consort of a sovereign to a sovereign for example, gifts from the Queen Mother to the Queen.

The Treasury Memorandum of Understanding on Royal Taxation, written in 2013, states: "The reasons for not taxing assets passing to the next sovereign are that private assets such as Sandringham and Balmoral have official as well as private use, and that the monarchy as an institution needs sufficient private resources to enable it to continue to perform its traditional role in national life, and to have a degree of financial independence from the government of the day."

There was a considerable public fuss when it emerged that the Queen Mother's estate was not liable for any tax when the Queen inherited it: when people wake up to the fact that the Queen's estate will now also not be liable for any tax there is likely to be similar disquiet, particularly as Charles is already a wealthy man thanks to his income from the Duchy of Cornwall.

The same will probably be true when it is confirmed that the Queen's will not be published. Michael Nash, author of a book on royal wills, said: "It is simply sent to Farrer's, the royal solicitors, and they will deal with it."

The practice of keeping secret the wills of members of the royal family other than the sovereign dates back to 1911, when Queen Mary persuaded a judge to hush up the will of her brother Prince Francis of Teck, a notorious womaniser, who had bequeathed his攀族 to a mistress.

The will was sealed, and the jewels, known as the Cambridge Emeralds, were bought back for Mary, who wore them at her husband George V's coronation the following year.



Queen's funeral will take place before she is buried at Windsor, as were most of her predecessors for the past 200 years

## Reunited at last in Windsor chapel

**Kaya Burgess**  
Religious Affairs Correspondent  
**Valentine Low**

The Queen will be reunited with her parents, sister and the Duke of Edinburgh, her husband of 73 years, in her final resting place at St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle.

Although Westminster Abbey was for centuries the usual burial place for kings and queens, more sovereigns over the past 300 years have been interred in the chapel at Windsor.

Its chequered floor tiles hide half a millennium of royal burials, including those of Henry VIII and nine other English and British kings, dating back to the interment of Edward IV in 1483.

In a small chapel set apart from the main royal vault, the Queen's final resting place will be alongside her parents, George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, who died in 1952 and 2002, and the ashes of her sister, Prin-



The Duke of Edinburgh is buried in the King George VI memorial chapel

cess Margaret, who also died in 2002.

Prince Philip was laid in the main vault after he died last April. He will be moved to reunite him with his wife in the King George VI Memorial Chapel, an annexe on the north side of the building. George VI's body was moved there from the main vault on its completion in 1969.

A state hearse will take the Queen's

coffin from Wellington Arch to St George's Chapel on the day of her funeral.

Before the final hymn, the imperial state crown, orb and sceptre will be removed from the coffin before it is lowered into place.

The chapel's origins date to 1348, when Edward III founded the Order of the Garter and the College of St George at Windsor Castle.

His great-great-grandson, Edward IV, commissioned a chapel to serve as his place of burial. He lies beneath the north quire aisle.

Richard III brought the body of Henry VI, who died in 1471, from Chertsey Abbey to Windsor and he lies beneath the south quire aisle. Charles I was buried in the same location after his beheading in 1649. His tomb remained unmarked until 1837.

George III, George IV, William IV, Edward VII and George V would also be laid to rest in the chapel.

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# Proclamation of new King to be televised for first time

**Sean O'Neill, Steven Swinford  
Valentine Low**

The formal proclamation of the death of the monarch and the accession of a new sovereign will be televised this morning for the first time.

The Accession Council, made up of 250 dignitaries including invited privy counsellors and the high commissioners of the 14 Commonwealth countries where the monarch is head of state, will gather at St James's Palace at 10am.

Its purpose is not to install the new monarch — the King automatically became sovereign upon the death of his mother — but to proclaim the death of Queen Elizabeth and the accession to the throne of King Charles. The King cannot attend but his heir, the Prince of Wales, is expected to be present.

The meeting will be presided over by the lord president of the council, Penny Mordaunt. Her presidency required a solution to be found to a constitutional conundrum. The appointment of the lord president had to be declared by the monarch at the privy council, but the Queen's health deteriorated before that could occur.

Mordaunt will be "acting" lord president for the Accession Council and will be confirmed in the role when the King presides over his first privy council meeting immediately afterwards.

There is dismay among many members of the privy council, a constitutional body that dates back to Norman times, that most of them will not be permitted to attend the ceremonies.

There are more than 700 members of the privy council: retired and active senior politicians, top civil servants and former judges. There were 281 when the Queen came to the throne in 1952.

Earlier this year privy counsellors were informed St James's Palace could not accommodate all of them. Members of the council in the cabinet or active in public life were given priority, with other counsellors invited to take part in a ballot for about 200 places.

"I'm afraid I see it as a very bad start to the King's reign," said one who missed out. "King Charles has alienated 500 members of the British establishment at a time when he needs all the support he can get. To say St James's cannot accommodate everyone is just a piece of bureaucratic nonsense."

The lord president will announce the death of the Queen and call upon the

clerk of the council to read aloud the text of the accession proclamation.

The platform party, made up of any members of the royal family present, the lord president, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the lord chancellor, the Archbishop of York, the prime minister, the lord privy seal, the lord great chamberlain and the earl marshal, will sign the proclamation.

The others attending will be the lord mayor of London and senior aldermen and the high commissioners of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Papua New Guinea, St Christopher and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Tuvalu, Grenada, Solomon Islands, St Lucia, and the Bahamas.

The lord president will then read orders relating to the reading and distribution of the proclamation and orders for firing guns at Hyde Park and the Tower of London.

At 11am the most senior herald in the realm, garter king of arms, David White, will give the first public reading of the proclamation from the balcony overlooking Friary Court at St James's. A second public reading will take place at the Royal Exchange in the City of London at noon and on Sunday there will be further public readings in Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast.

The first reading signals a temporary relaxation of the rules for flags to be flown at half-mast on public buildings. Union flags will be raised to full mast from the reading of the principal proclamation until one hour after the readings on Sunday afternoon. The meeting will then enter its second phase, which is presided over by the monarch and is attended only by UK privy counsellors.

Professor Robert Hazell, of the Constitution Unit at University College London, said: "Customarily, the King's first action is to make a personal declaration. This includes regret at the passing of his predecessor, a ringing assertion of fidelity to the nation's constitution, and a humble request for the nation's help in carrying his new burdens. Though short, the declaration can be imbued with emotion."

### TIMES ONLINE

Follow the full live coverage of today's Accession Council and the proclamation of the new monarch [thetimes.co.uk](http://thetimes.co.uk)

## Operation Unicorn: from declarations to the final resting place

**Jack Blackburn History Correspondent**

Operation Unicorn is the plan in the event of the Queen dying in Scotland.

Exact timings are subject to confirmation and possibly to change.

### TODAY

At 10am the accession council will meet at St James's Palace to proclaim Charles as King. For the first time, the proceedings will be shown on TV.

At 11am the principal proclamation will be read. A 41-gun salute will be fired

in Hyde Park. At noon a 61-gun salute will take place at the Tower of London.

Proclamations are to be made around the country. Union flags will be at full mast for 24 hours before returning to half-mast.

Books of condolence will open at St James's Palace, the Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, Holyroodhouse Palace, Balmoral and Sandringham.

### TOMORROW

It is understood that the Queen's coffin



## Operation Unicorn: from declarations to the final resting place

will leave Balmoral and be driven 100 miles south to Holyroodhouse Palace in Edinburgh, where the Queen will lie at rest in the throne room.

### MONDAY

King Charles is expected to return to Scotland and will join the procession of the Queen's coffin up the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral. It is expected that the public will be allowed to file past the coffin. The King's time in Scotland will be followed in the week by visits to Northern Ireland and Wales.

### TUESDAY

The coffin will be flown from Edinburgh to London and will rest in the throne room at Buckingham Palace.

### WEDNESDAY

The coffin will be taken by gun carriage via The Mall, Horse Guards Parade and Whitehall to Westminster Hall. It will lie in state there for five days.

A Vigil of the Princes will take place by the coffin, conducted by the Queen's children and senior royals.

Members of the public will pay their respects. This is likely to conclude on Sunday.

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

This is the expected day of the Queen's funeral. At 10.30am the coffin will be taken from Westminster Hall to Westminster Abbey. The funeral will begin at 11am. Afterwards the coffin will travel by gun carriage to Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner before being transferred to the state hearse and taken to St George's Chapel in Windsor, where the Queen will be buried.

HUGO BURNAND/GETTY IMAGES  
Prince Charles aged 60 in 2008. He has a strong vision for his reign

# Courtiers reshuffled in pursuit of a slimmed-down monarchy

David Brown

The King will begin his reign by modernising the court at Buckingham Palace with some of the most senior aides expected to be replaced.

Overhauling the retinue of courtiers will be crucial to his vision of a slimmed down royal operation. The prospective replacements are not necessarily younger and remain overwhelmingly male, but will be tasked with preparing the monarchy for the future.

Charles's long-serving principal private secretary Sir Clive Alderton, 55, is expected to follow him from Clarence House, replacing the Queen's most senior adviser, Sir Edward Young, also 55. The private secretary's office has a key role in supporting the King's constitutional, governmental and political duties as head of state.

Alderton worked closely with Charles as he took on a greater number of the Queen's duties. He will play a lead role in negotiations to secure an agreement that William will succeed Charles as head of the Commonwealth.

Young began working for the royal household in 2004, rising through the ranks to become the Queen's private secretary in 2017. His predecessor Lord Geidt had faced allegations of a "power struggle" with Charles, who was said to be wary of any changes that might have reduced his involvement in causes he was passionate about.

Tobyn Andreade, Charles's recently appointed communications secretary, is likely to take over the duties of the Palace incumbent Donal McCabe.

The King will also want to find a role for his own master of the household, the Earl of Rosslyn, 64. The Queen appointed Vice-Admiral Sir Tony Johnstone-Burt, 64, as her master of the household at Buckingham Palace in 2013. His department is the largest in the royal household, with more than 250 employees.

Sir Michael Stevens, 64, keeper of the privy purse, is likely to remain in post, at least in the short term. Charles and Camilla's own treasurer, Catherine James, could move over from Clarence House to a role in his department.

Lord Parker of Minsmere, 60, a former director-general of MI5, was appointed lord chamberlain last year and is likely to remain in post. He is responsible for organising ceremonial events, including the state opening of parliament and royal weddings.

Tradition dictates that the lord chamberlain must now break his white staff over the Queen's grave, a symbolic gesture marking the death of the sovereign he serves. The last to do so was the Earl of Clarendon over George VI's grave in 1952.

The Queen's older personal staff are likely to leave the Palace as Charles and Camilla establish their own court.

"He was dressed in ripped country clothing and he was completely on his own. There was no one else around. My dog was running off after some sheep so while I went off there, he chatted to my family for 20 minutes."

Patsy Roberton, 48, Good's partner and co-owner of the Mayfair & Grace salon, said she hoped Charles III would still be able to spend time in Gloucestershire. "London can be crazy and it's just very calm around here," she said. "He obviously feels safe."

Canon Poppy Hughes, rector of

WHO IS BY HIS SIDE?

## SIR CLIVE ALDERTON

The career diplomat has been Charles's principal private secretary for the past seven years.

Alderton, 55, joined the Foreign Office in 1986 and has taken up posts in Poland, Belgium, Singapore and France.

He worked for Charles and Camilla between 2006 and 2012 before returning to the Foreign Office as ambassador to Morocco.

As his principal private secretary since 2015, Alderton assisted

Charles in negotiating with Sir Edward Young, the Queen's private secretary, to secure the right for Camilla to use the title of Queen Consort. He was made a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order this year.

Camilla in particular is said to adore him, but the Duke and Duchess of Sussex were believed to have had difficult dealings with him as they tried to negotiate a future based in the US.

Always sharply dressed and with blond combed-over hair, Alderton regularly accompanies Charles on overseas tours.

At the annual review of Charles and Camilla's work in January he highlighted issues close to their heart, including climate change, the environment and



Charles and the Earl of Rosslyn at Royal Ascot in June. Below right, Sir Clive Alderton and, left, Tobyn Andreade

diversity. Alderton also acknowledges that "the role changes fundamentally [when] becoming Sovereign and, as the Prince has put it himself rather delicately, 'different rules apply'."

## TOBYN ANDREADE

Charles and Camilla announced the appointment of the former *Daily Mail* executive to oversee their public relations in July this year. He will be thrown in at the deep end later this month.

An Eton-educated former deputy editor at the *Daily Mail*, Andreade has also worked for *The Sunday Times* and the *Daily Express*.

There was some surprise at his appointment because he lacked public relations

experience. Camilla was reported to be keen for Andreade to build on her positive media coverage of late, after years of criticism which she admitted in a *Vogue* magazine interview to mark her 75th birthday was "not easy".

He replaces Simon Enright, 52, who joined Clarence House in May last year after serving as communications director for NHS England during the pandemic.

## EARL OF ROSSLYN

The former police officer was known professionally as Commander Peter Loughborough while head of royal protection for more than ten years.

The earl inherited his titles in 1977 and took his seat in the House of Lords in 1980. He was one of the hereditary



correspondence. Contenders could include Camilla's formidable and loyal former private secretary Amanda MacManus.

Many of Charles's staff are responsible for running the Duchy of Cornwall and will now work for William. Alastair Martin, a chartered surveyor who is the Duchy's secretary & keeper of the records, has worked for Charles for almost a decade.



## Neighbours hope that Charles will stay

Will Humphries  
Southwest Correspondent

The people of Tetbury had grown accustomed to bumping into a certain notable neighbour. That may all change now he is the King.

Nick Good, 58, was walking his dog across the Highgrove estate during a wet bank holiday when Charles, then Prince of Wales, popped out from behind a hedge, "looking a bit like a tramp". Good, who owns a beauty salon in the Cotswolds market town, added:

"He was dressed in ripped country clothing and he was completely on his own. There was no one else around. My dog was running off after some sheep so while I went off there, he chatted to my family for 20 minutes."

Placing flowers at the gates of Highgrove, Courtney Barnett, 32, said she hoped the country home would remain a private oasis for the monarch. "Although I don't imagine he will have very much time to relax now," she said.

The King will have to decide over the coming weeks who to appoint in her

St Mary's Church, said the town had a "deep feeling of connection and affection" with the King, who turned on Tetbury's Christmas lights in 2012 with his wife, the Queen Consort. "He always asks how things are at the church and how things are going," Hughes said. "It's nice to have that sense of interest."

Placing flowers at the gates of Highgrove, Courtney Barnett, 32, said she hoped the country home would remain a private oasis for the monarch. "Although I don't imagine he will have very much time to relax now," she said.

The King will have to decide over the coming weeks who to appoint in her

Troops' pledge to new chief

Larisa Brown Defence Editor

British troops joining the military will swear an oath of allegiance to their new commander-in-chief, Charles III, as personnel across the three services prepare to perform their "final duty" to the Queen. As well as head of the armed forces, the Queen was also colonel-in-chief of 16 British Army regiments and corps in addition to many Commonwealth units.

The King will have to decide over the coming weeks who to appoint in her

place and whether he will take on those positions himself. "This may take some time," said Lord Dannatt, who served as head of the army from 2006 to 2009.

As soon as his diary allows, Admiral Sir Tony Radakin, the professional head of the armed forces, will expect to meet the King, who as sovereign will have the power to declare war and peace. Yesterday Radakin, joined by Ben Wallace, the defence secretary, paid his respects to the Queen at the Tower of London as gun salutes took place across the country.

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# Biden to attend funeral as he tells

Alistair Dawber Washington

President Biden said yesterday that he would travel to London for the Queen's funeral after telling British embassy staff that Americans would mourn with their cousins across the Atlantic.

"I don't know the details yet but I'll be going," he said. A date for the service is yet to be set but Biden's trip will cause a headache for those planning his schedule. It is possible that the Queen's funeral will be held on September 19, the day before the president is to address the United Nations general assembly in New York.

Asked if he had spoken to the King, Biden replied: "I know him. I haven't spoken to him. I did not call him."

US presidents have not attended the last two state funerals in Britain. President Truman did not travel to George VI's funeral in 1952; Dean Acheson, the secretary of state, was sent as the American representative. Similarly, President Johnson did not attend Winston Churchill's funeral in 1965.

Biden had earlier signed a book of condolence at the British embassy, hours after the death of the Queen had been announced. The president and his wife, Jill, were received by Dame Karen Pierce, the British ambassador.

"The American people mourn today with people throughout the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth for Elizabeth II," Biden, 79, wrote. "She led with enduring strength ... Jill and I will never forget meeting her."

During the 20-minute visit, he told embassy staff: "We mourn for all of you. She was a great lady, I'm so delighted I got to meet her." The first lady added: "As my mother would say, God love you. Our hearts are with you."

A photograph of the Queen was on the table with the condolence book and a bouquet. The White House is understood to have contacted the embassy about an hour after the Queen's death was announced, to inform staff the president wished to offer his tribute. He postponed an announcement on coronavirus booster jabs to make his visit.

Thursday night's American football season opening match began with a minute's silence for the Queen, and a similar tribute was paid at the US Open tennis championships in New York.

Malta was also mourning her death as residents recalled their unique connection to the monarch. The Mediterranean island is the only place outside Britain, where she lived, spending time there between 1949 and 1951 when the Duke of Edinburgh was stationed there as a naval officer.

Residents recall her visiting the local hairdresser, watching her husband play polo and driving a Morris Minor. Her carefree days came to an end with the death in 1952 of her father, George VI.

"We will all cherish her special bond with Malta," President Vella said. Robert Abela, the prime minister, said she was loved by all Maltese, adding: "We will always remember her fondly."

India is to observe a day of state mourning tomorrow. "The national flag will be flown at half-mast throughout India on all buildings where [it] is flown regularly and there will be no official entertainment on the day," the home ministry said.

Narendra Modi, the prime minister, recalled his "memorable" meetings with the Queen in 2015 and 2018, saying he would "never forget her warmth and kindness", and that she "personified dignity and decency in public life".

King Abdullah of Jordan, who has close ties with the Windsors, said his country "mourns the passing of an iconic leader". He said she was "a beacon of wisdom and principled leadership for seven decades" while being a



## World's media pay tribute

David Charter Washington

The Queen preserved the modern monarchy — "an oxymoron, if ever there was one" — through public pageantry and concealed mystery. *The New Yorker* observed as the US press led global tributes.

It concluded that she was not just a Queen but something more because she was someone who "had lived a long time and seen a great deal, who commanded respect by the random chance of fortune but to whom respect was also granted because, having borne the weight of the crown for all those years, she had earned it".

Under the headline "Sun sets on the Elizabethan era", the *New York Post* tabloid gave its first 13 pages to commemorations. By mid-morning, its website had coverage of Charles arriving at Buckingham Palace headlined "Return of the King".

There were supplements in *USA Today*, headlined "Quiet dignity, towering strength" and in *The New York Times*, under the banner "A steady hand for seven decades".

The French media nearly all produced special editions, voicing admiration and respect for a woman whose legacy was summed up by *Le Parisien*'s headline: "Nous l'avons

"tant aimée" (We loved her so much). The left-wing *Liberation* newspaper said that her death had sent a shockwave round the world: It wondered: "Can she really depart so suddenly, an island of stability in a world in which everything seems to be changing too quickly?"

*Le Figaro* chronicled the attachment that the Queen felt for France, shown by five official visits and her command of the language. Under the front page "L'adieu à la Reine", the conservative newspaper called her a rock for her kingdom.

*Bild*, Germany's bestselling newspaper, ran a front-page portrait beneath the headline "The world weeps for the Queen".

For Australia the announcement came too late for first editions, though some outlets brought out later ones. *The Australian*, a national daily, ran a banner headline "Farewell Our Noble Queen".

Melbourne's *Herald Sun* ran a digital edition with the headline "Queen of All Our Hearts".

partner for Jordan and "a dear family friend".

In Bangkok the Thai flag was at half-mast in tribute and will remain so for three days. In a statement addressed to Liz Truss, Pravit Wongswan, the acting prime minister, offered his deepest condolences.

Sir Paul McCartney said he felt "privileged" to have lived during the Queen's reign, as he shared decades of personal memories of her.

The former Beatle recalled his multiple interactions with Elizabeth II, the first in 1965, and the last in 2018, when he said he made her "giggle slightly".

He explained: "When I was given the Companion of Honour medal I shook her hand, leant in and said, 'We have got to stop meeting like this', to which she giggled slightly and got on with the ceremony. I did wonder if I was a bit too cheeky after saying this, after all this was the Queen, but I have a feeling she didn't mind."

**The outpouring of admiration has been remarkable, leading article, page 29**



A tribute to the Queen was projected on to the Sydney Opera House yesterday. Anthony

## Putin and Xi offer their sympathies

### Foreign Staff

In countries where relations with the British government have often been strained, the tributes paid to Queen Elizabeth II have been no less effusive, speaking volumes about the respect and admiration felt for Britain's longest-serving monarch.

During her reign, the Queen visited more than a hundred countries across six continents and charmed numerous presidents and prime ministers.

At a time of rising tensions with Moscow over the war in Ukraine, President Putin of Russia offered "sincere sympathy" to Britain and extended his condolences to King Charles for the "irreparable loss" of his mother.

"I wish you courage and resilience in the face of this difficult, irreparable loss. May I ask you to pass on sincere condolences and support to members of the

royal family and the entire people of Great Britain." The Queen, he said, had "rightfully enjoyed the love and respect of her subjects, as well as authority on the world stage".

Putin first met the Queen in 2003, during the first state visit to the UK by a Russian leader in more than 125 years. The trip prompted protests over Russia's role in the Chechnya conflict and concern over the Kremlin's support for Iran's nuclear program.

Putin reportedly made Buckingham Palace nervous by keeping the Queen waiting for 14 minutes.

David Blunkett, who was then home secretary in Tony Blair's Labour government, told the BBC: "The only time I met Vladimir Putin was back in 2003 on an official visit and my then dog barked very loudly."

"I did apologise to the Queen ... I don't think I am giving anything away

when I said, 'Sorry, your Majesty, about the dog barking.' She said: 'Dogs have interesting instincts, don't they?'"

In China, President Xi expressed his "sincere sympathies to the British government and people", describing the Queen's death as a "great loss to the British people".

The Queen hosted China's leader in 2015, the first visit to Britain by a Chinese president in a decade. The trip was marked by demonstrations against China's human rights record.

Condolences were also offered in Cuba, where President Diaz-Canel ordered a day of official mourning.

Saudi Arabia's King Salman bin Abdulaziz and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman described Queen Elizabeth as a "model of leadership".

By contrast, Syria, Iran and North Korea made no official statement on the Queen's death.

# Britain: US is mourning with you

MARK BAKER/AP



Albanese, Australia's prime minister and a republican, was among world leaders praising her, recalling her "timeless decency". He said: "Today's not a day for politics"

## Republicans down under sense change in the air

**Bernard Lagan** Sydney

When the Queen presented the Australian prime minister and republican Malcolm Turnbull with portraits of herself and Prince Philip in 2017, she remarked: "Here you are. You can put them in a cupboard, I suppose."

Recalling the moment through tears yesterday, Turnbull, who led the Australian Republican Movement before the 1999 referendum when the country voted against becoming a republic, embodied the divided sentiments of many republicans. The Queen held a special place in the Australian heart that transcended its anti-monarchist urges. "Even republicans like myself can be, and in my case are, very strong Elizabethans," Turnbull said.

Anthony Albanese, the present

prime minister, a republican who has appointed a minister for the republic, intends to hold another referendum on the issue if he is elected for a second term. But when asked about the impact of the Queen's death on republican sentiment, he said: "Today's not a day for politics."

Only the leader of the Australian Greens, Adam Bandt, dared to press the issue as Australians reacted to the pre-dawn news that the Queen had died. Bandt, an ardent republican who refuses to display the Australian flag with its Union Jack corner showing at his press conferences, said on Twitter five hours after Buckingham Palace announced the Queen's death: "Now Australia must move forward. We need a treaty with First Nations [Aboriginal] people and we need to become a republic."

The former immigration minister, Alex Hawke, spoke for many when he labelled Bandt's words "truly graceless and bereft of common decency".

The chairman of the Australian Republic Movement, the author and former rugby international Peter Fitz-Simons, was more circumspect but predicted that republican sentiment would grow. "A phenomenal number of people have said to me over the years, 'I'm absolutely with you, but not until the Queen passes away'. And I expect now there will be a surge of interest, of membership, of donations," he said.

"With the greatest respect to Charles III — and I mean that; I have nothing against him personally — he does not enjoy the same deep wellsprings of affection and loyalty that Her Majesty did."

It has long been suggested by

republicans that the end of the Queen's reign would stoke their movement, largely because the uneasiness many Australian sympathisers felt about offending the Queen would be removed. Turnbull, discussing the issue on the *Stories of our times* podcast less than a month ago, said the death of the Queen would spark a "period of reflection" in Australia, culminating in the country becoming a republic.

"The next opportunity to consider this will be after the end of the Queen's reign," he said. "When Queen Elizabeth's reign comes to an end, there will be a period of reflection and I think the republic issue will return."

In the referendum 23 years ago, when 45 per cent voted in favour of becoming a republic against 55 per cent who

## Charles will be known as King Karl by Russians

**Tom Parfitt**

Britain's new king is Charles III in much of the world but in Russian newspapers today he acquires an unusually Germanic-sounding name — Karl III.

"This King Karl III business is driving me nuts," tweeted Michele Berdy, a leading Russian-English translator. "Supposedly Russians 'traditionally' call English kings by the German version of their name."

Prince Charles was known as Charl in Moscow, until he became king on Thursday.

Prince William and Prince Harry are transliterated as Ulyam and Garri, the closest Cyrillic can come to the sound of the English. The Duke of Cornwall and Cambridge's name would become Vilgelm as king.

The Germanisation of foreign names is mostly peculiar to monarchs: Henry VIII is Genrikh VIII in Russian but the American politician Henry Kissinger is simply Genri. Likewise, the late Queen's father, George VI, was called Georg in Russia (with two hard g's), while the former American president George Bush is rendered as the softer Dzhordzh, a precise phonetic interpretation.

The origins of the tradition are not clear, but it appears to have become common by the middle of the 19th century, especially in the work of the Berlin-educated Russian medievalist Timofey Granovsky.

The practice was entrenched between 1890 and 1907 with the publication in Russia of the 86-volume Brockhaus and Efron encyclopedia, a translation of a German work said to be imbued with a "Teutonic spirit".

In a recent article about the Germanisation of European monarchs' names, the Russian historian Vadim Ustinov said the practice was confusing. He said it had been variously applied to Portuguese, Spanish and French rulers as well as English ones.

One monarch who sidestepped the tradition was Elizabeth II. Berdy noted that the Queen was known in Russia as Elizaveta, not the Germanised Elisabet.

opposed the change, the republican cause failed to garner majority support in any Australian state.

A poll for the *Sydney Morning Herald* in January showed 54 per cent of Australians willing to vote for a republic but split over the best way to choose a head of state.

David Flint, national convener of Australians for Constitutional Monarchy, insisted that the republican movement had "absolutely no hope" of effecting change. "I don't think they will get a second chance."

In New Zealand, public debate about the possibility of becoming a republic would "build up quite a head of steam now", Sir Don McKinnon, a former deputy prime minister and former secretary-general of the Commonwealth, told Radio New Zealand.

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# Candle lit at safari lodge where 'young girl' became a queen

**Charlie Mitchell** Treetops,  
Aberdare National Park

**Jane Flanagan** Africa Correspondent

A thick mist descended over Kenya's oldest safari lodge yesterday, ground zero of the second Elizabethan age where in 1952 the 25-year-old Princess Elizabeth became Queen.

For Amos Ndegwa, 68, whose grandfather helped to build Treetops, a three-room hotel perched in a colossal fig tree in Aberdare National Park, and whose father cooked for the Queen there in 1952, the dreary weather was fitting.

"I am lighting a candle to join the world in mourning Queen Elizabeth II," he sighed. Metres away was the door of the suite where Elizabeth stayed in 1982 on her third and final visit to the bush hideaway.

"I feel very sad," Ndegwa told *The Times*, which closed in the coronavirus pandemic and now lies empty. "She was very good, she was very kind. She was very welcoming and very humble."

The hotel's heyday, when celebrities from Charlie Chaplin to Joan Crawford walked in the Queen's footsteps, feels a distant memory. Yet less than 24 hours after the Queen's death, its eerie silence and empty corridors felt appropriate.

For Douglas Mwangi, who could stake a claim to be Kenya's biggest monarchist, news of the Queen's death was devastating. "It's a sad day and a massive loss." Mwangi, who was born in Nyeri and runs a youth empowerment organisation for which he received an award from the Queen, said. "She meant a lot to us. Kenyans loved her."

Mwangi gathered 50 people in a frayed village hall near Nyeri to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee this year.

Africa was a constant in the Queen's life. It was her first experience of the world beyond her homeland and the backdrop to the start of Britain's longest reign. Her first overseas trip had been as Princess Elizabeth to southern Africa in 1947 on a four-month tour with the King, Queen Elizabeth, and her sister Princess Margaret. She celebrated her 21st birthday in Cape Town, where she made the radio broadcast to the Commonwealth that framed her lifelong dedication to serving the "family of nations". "I should like to make this dedication now. It is very simple. I de-



Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh at Treetops in 1952

clare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong," she said.

The Queen's fate was sealed on her next trip to Africa, where she and the Duke of Edinburgh were visiting on behalf of the ailing king, who died at Sandringham while they were in Kenya. As the naturalist Jim Corbett, who spent that night at the top of the ladder with a rifle to keep leopards at bay, wrote: "A young girl climbed into the tree as a princess and climbed down as a Queen."

From her father, the Queen inherited the fledgling Commonwealth — initially eight states from the remnants of the British Empire. Under the Queen's devoted nurturing its citizens now account for almost a third of the world's population in 56 countries. The appeal of joining the Commonwealth endures, so much so that it has recently embraced new members from French and Portuguese-speaking Africa.

Ali Bongo Ondimba, leader of Gabon, which was admitted in June with Togo, described the Queen as a great friend of Africa.

As with any family, the eclectic jumble of nations has had its fallings out. The Queen was always the quiet glue or, as the Duke of Edinburgh once put it, the "psychotherapist" whose behind-the-scenes chats, occasional rebukes and deep connections to its nations could ease a sting. When Ghana became the first sub-Saharan nation to gain independence, it was an early test

of whether the bonds between colonial power and colony would survive. During the Queen's visit in 1961, President Nkrumah told a state dinner in her honour: "The wind of change blowing through Africa has become a hurricane. Whatever else is blown into the limbo of history, the personal regard and affection which we have for Your Majesty will remain unaffected."

One of the most striking pictures taken on any royal tour was of the smiling Queen and the president sweeping around the ballroom floor — a symbol of a new, equal partnership between Britain and Africa. The serving president, Nana Akufo-Addo, has ordered that flags across the west African state fly at half mast for a week.

Tumultuous events consistently demonstrated a willingness by leaders to insulate their affection for the Queen from the occasional animosity to her government or the Commonwealth. Nigeria returned to the fold in 1995 after a four-year suspension for human rights abuses under Sani Abacha.

Zimbabwe's leaders have railed regularly against the British government for sanctions targeting the political elite and their businesses.

Robert Mugabe took his country out of the Commonwealth in 2003, and was stripped of his honorary knighthood, yet President Mnangagwa, his successor, was among the first to offer his "deepest condolences to the royal family", the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

Nelson Mandela was considered the Queen's favourite African leader. She had disagreed with the refusal by Margaret Thatcher's government to impose sanctions on the apartheid regime in South Africa — a policy out of step with the Commonwealth's determination to be on the right side of history.

It was ultimately up to the Commonwealth leaders to decide who should follow the Queen as their symbolic head. Once she had expressed her "sincere wish" in 2018 that her son would take over, no one was willing to disappoint her. What cannot immediately be inherited by Charles III is the organisation's vast affection for the Queen. It will be his own life's work to win that. Queen helped the Commonwealth to thrive, Trevor Phillips, page 26

## Readers' ire over 'repugnant' US column

**Hugh Tomlinson**

A Harvard academic's criticism of the Queen's "colonial" legacy, published in the *New York Times* on the day of her death, has provoked a furious backlash online, even among the paper's own traditional liberal readership.

"The Queen helped obscure a bloody history of decolonisation whose proportions and legacies have yet to be adequately acknowledged," wrote Maya Jasanoff, a history professor who has studied the theft of historical artefacts from Egypt and India during British imperial rule. "We should not romanticise her era."

She added that the Queen's reign coincided with the dissolution of most of the British empire and with it, the de-

cline of Britain's global influence. "By design as much as by the accident of her long life, her presence as head of state and head of the Commonwealth, an association of Britain and its former colonies, put a stolid traditionalist front over decades of violent upheaval."

Her guest column, headlined "Mourn the Queen, not her Empire", prompted a flood of comments from readers appalled by the timing of the essay. "Has the NYT no shame? A clumsy and repugnant article which has no place on the day of Her Majesty's death. Disgraceful," wrote one reader.

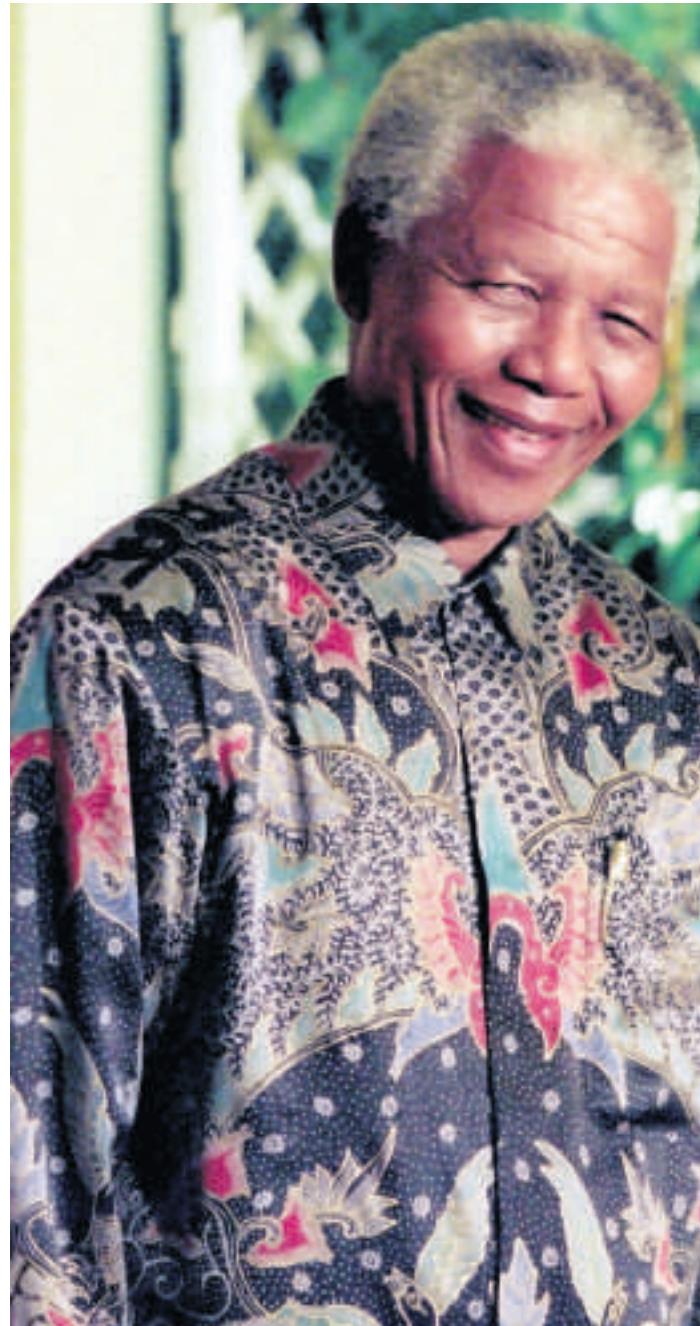
"This all may be worth asking, but the woman has been dead about an hour or two and you have this out? No wonder so many people despise the NYT," said another. Jasanoff acknowledged the

monarch's clashes with her own ministers, supporting the demands of her Commonwealth, and taking a tougher line on apartheid in South Africa.

Readers disagreed with the premise of the piece, however.

"As an immigrant from Kenya," one wrote, "I think this article is premature. The Queen is being mourned deeply in Kenya, not because Kenyans are not aware of what the Empire did, but because of who she was as a person."

Elsewhere, Uju Anya, professor at Carnegie Mellon University, had tweeted that "the chief monarch of a thieving raping genocidal empire is finally dying" when news broke of the Queen's ill-health, adding, "may her pain be excruciating." The widely criticised tweet was removed by Twitter for breaching rules.



## Mandela, her friend in dignity and duty

They recognised similar qualities in each other and took pride in their bond, writes John Carlin



was there that day, in my sixth year as a newspaper correspondent in South Africa. Two years earlier, the first time I interviewed Mandela, I caught my first glimmer of what would turn out to be an extraordinarily special relationship between himself and the Queen. Mandela was about to visit London.

I asked him what it would mean to him to stand before such monuments as the Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace. He replied, startlingly: "It will be my pride."

He explained that he had been educated by British missionaries and at the age of 13 had known far more about the history of Britain than that of his own people. He added that he had first met the Queen in Zimbabwe in 1991 and had been enchanted by her. She too by him, as it turned out. They soon came to regard each other as close friends.

A couple of years into the Mandela presidency, a married couple I knew

In June 1994, a month after Nelson Mandela became South Africa's first black president, the Queen's birthday party took place at the British embassy in Pretoria. Mandela had been invited but the ambassador, whom I knew, did not expect him to come. He did.

"Mr President, I am very pleasantly surprised to see that you found the time to be with us today," the ambassador said. Mandela was astonished. "What? Me turn down an invitation to the Queen's birthday party? Please, what are you thinking, Mr Ambassador?" I



JULIAN PARKER/GETTY IMAGES



The Queen and Nelson Mandela at the Dorchester and meeting crowds in 1996

well were having dinner with him at his home in Johannesburg, just the three of them, when a servant appeared with a portable phone. "There's a call for you, Mr Mandela. It is important."

"Who is it?"  
"The Queen of England."

Mandela lit up. "Elizabeth! Hello! How are you? How are the children?"

Whether anyone else, with the possible exception of Prince Philip, ever had

the audacity to address the Queen by her first name, one would doubt. But she always addressed Mandela as "Nelson" and the ease of the bond they developed overcame the barriers the Queen normally placed between herself and the common people.

After Mandela left the presidency in 1999, he went on a private visit to London accompanied by his secretary, Zelda La Grange. She told me what

happened. After landing at Heathrow, Mandela did what you do when you arrive in a foreign city in which you have spent time before. He phoned his friends. "Elizabeth! It's me, Nelson. I'm in London." The Queen asked him where he was staying. At the Dorchester, Mandela replied. "Oh no, Nelson. You must come and stay with me."

I don't know whether the Queen added, "There's plenty of room", but this is what you do with your good mates who live far away and come to visit your city. No hotel nonsense. You invite them over to stay at your place. Mandela, courtesy itself, did not say no.

People have often asked me what was the secret of the chemistry between Mandela and the Queen. The answer is simple. While born in humble circumstances in a remote region of rural South Africa, Mandela had an air of majesty about him. Like the Queen, he had immense dignity and an immense sense of duty. They saw those qualities in each other from the first. They defined the word "class". Breaking protocol, the Queen melted before Mandela in a way she rarely did with anyone outside her inner circle and, over the years until his death, the two of them kept up a delightful complicity built on mutual admiration and warmth.

# New Canadians are first to swear oath to Charles III

**Hugh Tomlinson** Washington

Immigrants in Canada were among the first to swear allegiance to Charles III as their citizenship ceremony was interrupted by news of the Queen's death.

Roberto Rocha, a Montreal journalist, was with a friend who was about to have his citizenship confirmed in a virtual ceremony on Zoom when the Queen's death was reported. The occasion, which includes an oath of allegiance to the monarch, was disrupted.

Officials raced to confirm the new monarch of the Commonwealth member state as more than 140 people waited. "There is a long delay," Rocha tweeted. "He was supposed to swear his allegiance to the Queen. I'm guessing they're trying to sort out what to do now."

The ceremony went ahead after more than half an hour when Buckingham Palace confirmed the accession of Charles III. "Ceremony is starting," Rocha posted. "They're playing a video full of Canadiana like maple trees and Mounties and hockey."

The presiding judge made a sombre acknowledgement of the Queen's death before clarifying that Charles was the new "King of Canada".

Rocha's friend and the scores of other new Canadians on the Zoom call declared their citizenship in French with the oath to "His Majesty King Charles III, King of Canada".

The hastily reworded oath concluded with the line: "The Queen is dead. Long live the King." The oath was followed by a recorded message of congratulations from Justin Trudeau, the prime minister, and the national anthem, *O Canada*. "Thankfully, nothing to change there," Rocha added.

The new citizens were asked to take a selfie

**Justin Trudeau**  
met the Queen  
when he was five



in front of their computers with the face of the presiding official visible behind them, their official photo on a historic day of momentous confusion.

The Queen's death has been keenly felt in Canada, the Commonwealth country she visited most during her reign, with 22 official trips. She first visited as a princess in 1951 and made an official trip as Queen in 1957, spending four days in Ottawa and becoming the first reigning monarch to open the parliament.

She had a family holiday in 1976 to accompany the Princess Royal competing in the equestrian team at the Montreal Olympics.

She returned in 1982 for the proclamation of Canada's constitution, with more than 30,000 people turning out in the rain to see her sign the document.

The ceremony went awry after Pierre Trudeau, the prime minister and father of the present leader, broke the tip of the pen. When Jean Chrétien, the justice minister, was unable to sign the paper, he swore in exasperation, prompting the Queen to laugh. An alternative pen was swiftly found.

In a solemn address on Thursday the prime minister said the Queen was "one of my favourite people in the world".

Trudeau added: "I'm having trouble believing that my last sit-down with her was my last. I will so miss those chats. She was thoughtful, wise, curious, helpful, funny and so much more."

He first met the Queen when he was five years old and his father was the prime minister. "In a complicated world her steady grace and resolve brought comfort and strength to us all," Trudeau said. "Canada is in mourning. She was one of my favourite people in the world and I will miss her so."

The flag on the Peace Tower at Parliament Hill in Ottawa was lowered to half-mast, along with flags on government buildings across the country.

## Netflix pauses filming on *The Crown* out of respect

**James Beal** Social Affairs Editor

Filming of Netflix's *The Crown* was suspended as a mark of respect following the Queen's death.

The royal drama, which has chronicled everything from the Queen's Coronation to her family's marital woes, paused production yesterday and will do the same on the day of her funeral.

Cast and crew were understood to be preparing to film scenes covering Princess Diana's death, during the show's sixth season, when the shutdown announcement was made. Elizabeth Debicki is playing the princess and Imelda Staunton the Queen. Series five is due to be shown this autumn.

The drama is being filmed in Barcelona at present, with a set modified to resemble a Parisian street with French road signs.

Hours after the Queen's death was announced, Peter Morgan, writer of the Emmy-winning drama, said: "*The Crown* is a love letter to her and I've

nothing to add for now, just silence and respect. I expect we will stop filming out of respect too."

Morgan also wrote the 2006 film *The Queen*, starring Helen Mirren.

Netflix has long-held plans in place should the Queen die during its run — reportedly named Operation London Bridge, like the official plans for her death in the UK.

When the series first went into production, the director, Stephen Daldry, vowed that if the show was being made it would stop for a period of time upon her death.

He said in 2016: "None of us know when that time will come but it would be right and proper to show respect to the Queen. It would be a simple tribute and a mark of respect."

"She's a global figure and it's what we should do. She's an extraordinary woman and people will be upset."

Three actresses have portrayed the Queen in the show — Staunton, Claire Foy and Olivia Colman.

## News Queen Elizabeth II

# TMS

diary@thetimes.co.uk | @timesdiary

### Corgi diversion worked a treat

One of the Queen's most welcome talents was her ability to put anxious or emotional visitors at their ease. The trauma surgeon David Nott, who has worked in war zones around the world, recalled a lunch with her after he had returned from serving in Syria when he was also grieving the loss of his mother. As he discussed what he had seen in Aleppo, he suddenly felt as if he were about to burst into tears. The Queen, sensing this, lightly touched his hand and beckoned to a courier to bring a silver box full of biscuits. "These are for the dogs," she said, breaking one and giving Nott half. They then sat together, feeding and stroking the corgis. Nott felt his distress drain away. "There," the Queen told him. "That's so much better than talking, isn't it?"

*For her first year on the throne, we had three queens: the reigning one, her mother, right, and Queen Mary, George V's widow. Sometimes Her Majesty had to pull rank on Another Majesty. At a concert in 1982 to mark the centenary of the Royal College of Music, the Queen Mother was heard to hiss "Who do you think you are?" as her daughter elbowed her way past to take the plum seat. "The Queen, Mummy, the Queen," her daughter replied pointedly.*

#### SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

The Queen's first prime minister was born 101 years before her last. Reflecting on her longevity for an American audience, the academic Matt Glassman pointed out that she had reigned for almost 30 per cent of US history. "The Brits think 100 miles is a long distance," he said. "Americans think 100 years is a long time." Our American friends, though fond of the monarchy, don't always get it. At a reception in Washington after the war, President Truman



introduced Princess Elizabeth to his mother-in-law, who told the future Queen: "I'm so glad your father was re-elected."

#### PLAYING HER PART

As a princess, the future Queen would often slip unnoticed into the stalls of a West End theatre to watch a play. Things naturally became more difficult after her accession but *The Stage* optimistically told readers in 1952 that if the Queen wished to pay an informal visit to a theatre London playgoers should pretend not to notice and allow her an

evening off. She once told François Hollande, the French president, that as a girl she had wanted to be an actress (this was eight years before her double-act with Paddington). Hollande suggested that in a way she already was. "Yes," the Queen conceded. "But always the same role."

*The Queen met many actors, several of whom have played her. One of the most memorable was Prunella Scales, right, in A Question of Attribution, Alan Bennett's play about Anthony Blunt, the Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures and Russian spy. The women met afterwards and Scales*

*gave a curtsy. "I expect you think I should be doing that to you," the Queen said.*

#### RACING UNCERTAINTY

The Queen had a lot of racing success, but never won the Derby. Her best chance came four days after the Coronation when *Aureole* was beaten into second place by *Pinza*. Magnanimous in defeat, the Queen praised *Pinza*'s trainer on his victory.

"And I congratulate you, ma'am," he replied, "on winning the world." Years later she collared Terry Wogan at a reception and asked the broadcaster not to tip her horses on his radio show, saying: "Your approbation does incline my horses to fall over under the weight of expectation."

PATRICK KIDD



# France fell for a princess with a diplomat's touch

Adam Sage Paris

France may be a republican state built on a revolutionary past, but it retained genuine affection and esteem for Queen Elizabeth II.

From President Macron, who delivered a speech in English to express a feeling of "emptiness" following her death, to *The Times* correspondent's postwoman, who delayed her round to spend 15 minutes voicing her admiration, the sense of fondness was almost universal. Even *Liberation*, the left-

mandy. In 1948, when still a princess, she crossed the Channel for the inauguration of an exhibition entitled *Eight Centuries of British Life in Paris*. Those who heard her speak were astonished at the quality of her French.

Vincent Auriol, the president at the time, who had the guttural tones of his native southwest, said she "has less of an accent than me". In its report on her visit, *Le Monde* described a "pure voice, a barely perceptible accent... and spiritual warmth".

The trip included a night of cabaret near the Champs-Élysées, where the Queen heard Édith Piaf perform *La Vie en Rose*, later having a drink with the celebrated French singer.

This week *Le Monde* said Buckingham Palace had always taken pains to underline the Queen's attachment to France "to flatter [French] pride and to maintain the real respect she enjoyed in the Republic". However, it added that her "emotional bond with France... was probably not just an invention with diplomatic intentions". The newspaper said she genuinely seemed to have enjoyed her numerous trips across the Channel, many of which helped to smooth over political difficulties. In 1957, for instance, her state visit went down particularly well at a time of tensions a year after the Suez crisis. She was credited with putting the relationship back on an even keel with a speech extolling "profound and lasting" Franco-British friendship.



Emmanuel Macron signs a book of condolence in Paris. Jacques Chirac was also charmed

wing daily that is habitually in the vanguard of anti-royalism, adopted a respectful tone as it pointed out the Queen had enjoyed a solid relationship with France.

She made five state visits to the country, and travelled there on at least ten other occasions, mostly on official business, although sometimes to visit stables, notably in Nor-

mandy. In 1948, when still a princess, she crossed the Channel for the inauguration of an exhibition entitled *Eight Centuries of British Life in Paris*. Those who heard her speak were astonished at the quality of her French.

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The trip included a night of cabaret near the Champs-Élysées, where the Queen heard Édith Piaf perform *La Vie en Rose*, later having a drink with the celebrated French singer.

This week *Le Monde* said Buckingham Palace had always taken pains to underline the Queen's attachment to France "to flatter [French] pride and to maintain the real respect she enjoyed in the Republic". However, it added that her "emotional bond with France... was probably not just an invention with diplomatic intentions". The newspaper said she genuinely seemed to have enjoyed her numerous trips across the Channel, many of which helped to smooth over political difficulties. In 1957, for instance, her state visit went down particularly well at a time of tensions a year after the Suez crisis. She was credited with putting the relationship back on an even keel with a speech extolling "profound and lasting" Franco-British friendship.

Fifteen years later French diplomats were again thankful after she de-



Nicolas Sarkozy, a teetotaller, recalled the Queen's kindness when his head "spun" after mistakenly downing a gin at Windsor

clined to take umbrage when then president Georges Pompidou breached protocol by grabbing her arm on the steps of the Elysée Palace.

The Queen won plaudits once more in 1996 when Jacques Chirac, president at the time, delivered another blow to protocol when he blew kisses to the crowd from the royal carriage on a state visit to London. Chirac later said the Queen had told him she found his actions "just a bit surprising".

Chirac took a further risk with a joke during their ride through the capital. After a horse broke wind the Queen apologised, only for her guest to retort: "It's not important, your Majesty. I

thought it was the horse." If the Queen was displeased, she did not show it, and a diplomatic incident was averted, much to Paris's relief.

Nicolas Sarkozy, Chirac's successor, has particularly fond memories of the Queen's kindness.

In his memoirs he recalled being anxious when he visited Britain in 2008 with his wife, Carla Bruni-Sarkozy. Offered a glass of clear liquid he took to be water, the teetotaller downed it in one. It was, in fact, gin.

Sarkozy said his head was spinning and his memories of the day remained a little fuzzy. However, he can recall the Queen's kindness as she accompanied

him and his wife back to their bedroom in Windsor Castle, where she explained that the plumbing was sometimes a little temperamental.

France's current president Emmanuel Macron signed a book of condolence at the British embassy in Paris yesterday. "We all feel an emptiness," he said in a tribute to the Queen recorded in English. "With her, France and the United Kingdom shared not just an 'entente cordiale', but a warm, sincere and loyal partnership."

"We are grateful for her deep affection for France. Elizabeth II mastered our language, loved our culture and touched our hearts."

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# Comment

## It's up to us to shape the Charles we want

Love for the Queen stilled debate about monarchy but King and public both understand that he serves at our pleasure

**Matthew Parris**



"Sir," wrote George Bernard Shaw to *The Morning Leader* after the death of Queen Victoria, "I am loth to interrupt the rapture of mourning in which the nation is now enjoying its favourite festival — a funeral. But in a country like ours the total suspension of common sense and sincere human feeling for a whole fortnight is an impossibility."

The editor declined to publish the letter. I quote it not with approval, and certainly not as indicating my own feelings. I may not feel personally stricken at the late Queen's passing, because it was time; but I'm filled with admiration, with respect, with what (if we may use the word for somebody we never knew) one could call love, and with gratitude for what she has done for this nation.

No, I quote GBS as a reminder that opinion was not unanimous during the 63-year reign of our second-longest serving monarch. Shaw was a gadfly; but he was a straw in, if not a wind, then a gentle breeze of disrespectfulness that had been gusting with variable force ever since Victoria in effect retired to the Isle of Wight in deep depression, on her husband Albert's death some 40 years before her own.

It's really not that long ago. My grandmother was 13 when Victoria died. By then her sheer longevity and partial return to public life had brought about some recovery in her popularity and in respect for monarchy, helped by growing public affection for cheerful, fun-loving

"Bertie" who was to succeed her. But it should not be forgotten that there was a time in "Victorian" Britain — yes, the era we now stereotype as prim, respectful and deeply conservative — when there was talk of the abolition of monarchy, or at least of the incumbent: worries among ministers that she was mentally unfit, irritation at her withdrawal from monarchical duties and speculation about her possible removal.

I wonder whether, amid today's outpouring of affection for a popular departed queen, we realise how thin is the veneer of respect for the institution as opposed to the individual? Monarchy is, of course, personal because every monarch is a person, capable of earning respect and whom most of us want to respect. But it is also ideological: a constitutional doctrine that a head of state should be chosen by birth alone and by birth alone should reign until death or abdication. The doctrine

The danger is that he'll irritate people through unsteady judgment

does not — cannot — require supporting buttresses such as plebiscites of any kind, qualifications of any kind, appraisals of any kind, or even public affection. Being rooted in heredity alone, monarchy cannot by definition be conditional.

Put like that, who in 2022 is really a monarchist?

Elizabeth made Elizabethists of us all: you (probably), me (certainly) and even our new prime minister who (like me) was a republican when young, came to merge together the Queen and her office and, admiring her, approve of both. Gradually, almost imperceptibly through her

long, long reign, we found ourselves to be a nation willing to put aside examination of the rationality of monarchy because we respected the incumbent. We forgot that a previous age had once pondered the opposite journey: beginning to examine the rationality of monarchy because they had lost respect for the incumbent.

Let me put it crudely. Elizabeth has left us with what might be called monarchy by public acclamation. Heredity governs who is offered to us, but it's an offer this nation would not, in its heart, feel bound any longer to accept.

Now let me put it even more crudely. We have an elected monarchy. Indirectly elected because we don't vote for the monarch; but we elect our government; and if our government were ever to be sure the electorate strongly, overwhelmingly and persistently desired the removal of an individual monarch or of the institution itself, then — believe me — one way or another the politicians would see to it. You may not feel this to be true because it isn't the way the wind is blowing; but if the wind changed and began blowing hard the other way then your feelings might change. Imagine, for instance, that the Prince of Wales had been Andrew.

Victoria was lucky in her politicians because Disraeli could use her and Gladstone (unrequitedly) worshipped her. Charles starts from a stronger position than may be realised. He is (to me quite transparently) a good man. I'll forgo speculation about how far he'll prove capable of suppressing his own strong convictions because I suspect we'll give him a fair degree of leeway. We know his convictions already, many share them, and even those who don't realise that a king's private opinions do not become government



Shaw wrote of the "total suspension of common sense" after Victoria died

policy. The greater danger for Charles is that he'll irritate people through unsteady personal judgment in matters such as his friendship circle and pet projects. But I doubt his good faith will or should be questioned: a huge asset.

Besides, he may not be around for all that long. He's my age. At 73 we hope for good health and long life but we absolutely cannot count on either.

The test is more likely to come with his successor and here the indications are good. Prince William appears conscientious. I watched him intently during a 90-minute investiture and gained the impression of a good-natured man making a real effort. He is either pleasant, dutiful, affable, mild and unopinionated, or he's good at pretending to be. He comes across as

a genuinely nice guy. I'm not sure a great deal more is required. We, the public, can build on that and, as with those Action Man dolls, clothe him according to our taste.

This, you see, is the power of love. Between monarch and people, love is a two-way thing. We wanted to love our beautiful young Princess Elizabeth, she wanted to receive our love, and over 70 years she grew — by dint of a good deal of effort —

Between monarch and people, love is a two-way thing

more and more loveable. We loved her, she returned the compliment in spades and she became, in her turn, loving. But being loved is a cruel burden. With love comes expectation and so love shapes its recipient, and its scalpel can be unsparing. Like plants growing towards the light, monarchs need the acclamation of their subjects. Seeking it, they begin to see themselves as we wish to see them. We become more their masters than we know.

There is a phrase known to prisoners: "At Her Majesty's pleasure". But His Majesty Charles III, like his great-great-great-grandmother Victoria, like his mother before him and like his son after he has gone, will be there at his subjects' pleasure. We are the masters. Let us be gentle towards our royal creatures.

### RED BOX

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## Carol Midgley Notebook

### A handy tip: don't let your fingers do the talking

I was seven when a teacher told me it's rude to point. I was jabbing my finger in a spat over sports day bean bags when the teacher quietly said: "Those who point during an argument have already lost it." The Queen showed us the importance of deportment so I hope that whatever style advice Liz Truss now gets as prime minister, one of them is this: lose the finger.

Truss is a bad jabber, a full-on "pointer sister", and it takes one to know one. When she's challenged, up comes the arm, hovering mid-air,

and off she goes. My memory of the leadership debates is her manicured digit lightly stabbing the air.

You may think this is preferable to politicians' endless "thisting" and I see that, I do. The "thist", as explained by Julia Louis-Dreyfus, the actress from *Veep*, involves holding your fist with the thumb on top, a thumb-fist, as perfected by David Cameron. It's such a faux, coached hand gesture which says, "See, I'm being reasonable, not aggressive", that it reeks of practised insincerity.

At least the finger-point is what normal humans do, you might say. I still instinctively jab the finger in a row, despite that teacher's sage words, and have been told it



gives me the air of a "bar-room bore". To be fair, that's pretty accurate.

### Mugging up

Amid national grief, does Marks & Spencer regret a small tweak to its crockery policy? It is ditching teacups and saucers in its cafés in favour of mugs to save on water and energy. Pearls have been clutched. "It's not the same!" some complained. Others said having nowhere to rest a spoon is "unhygienic". Life's certainly tough in the first world.

The Queen always used cups and saucers, and sales of commemorative Elizabeth II crockery will surely soar, along with

patriotism. M&S's timing could have been better. But it should stand firm.

Cups and saucers are pointless fusspottery, doubling the washing up. The cups are too small so require refills from a pot of what's now stewed broth. Civilisation won't fall if tea is served in mugs. I only ever use them, the bigger the better. My favourite one reads "World's Greatest Dad" which is confusing, granted, but I bought it solely because it was huge. If anyone's interested, Sports Direct do a cracking one the size of a small bucket.

### Mind the draught

To the list of "vampire appliances" which suck electricity, including the TV on standby (£24 a year) and the microwave (£16), I add another. If, like me, you got a draught beer tap during lockdown be aware it's as thirsty as you. Friends went away and found that, along with the fridge, it cost £26 to keep it on — for ONE week. You're welcome.

### Feline letdown

Like a sucker I downloaded MeowTalk, an app which claims to translate your cat's meowing. I know: embarrassing. But as serf to two dagger-eyed overlords, £2.49 a month seemed a bargain to know what they were saying, aside from, "Where are my Dreamies, you worthless sack of skin?"

I've been sold a pup. The translations are pathetic. One miaow from my thinner cat came up as "I missed you so much!" Eh? I didn't go anywhere. Another from my porkier one was translated as, "We'll be together for ever", which either means she needs a chat about mortality or the ancient Egyptians were right about cats being gods. The final straw was Fatty telling me "I'm super beat!" What? My cat uses Americanisms now? I have unsubscribed.

## Comment

# After empire, she knew what had to happen

Political skill and a belief in justice and democracy led Elizabeth II to create a modern, multicultural family of nations

**Trevor Phillips**



@TREVORPTWEETS

**W**hen the call came from Buckingham Palace it was unexpected, but not surprising. Fifty years on from the arrival of the Empire Windrush in 1948, Her Majesty had commanded that there should be a reception for the survivors of the historic voyage that symbolised postwar migration. My brother Michael and I, who had authored the book that brought the 492 voyagers to public attention, were asked to draw up a list of invitees. She in her turn ordered a full turnout of the royal family; everybody was on parade to honour those who had made the journey from the edges of empire.

This was no summons *de haut en bas*. As she toured the room, she shared memories with people she treated as equals in courage and fortitude. They were men and women of her own generation, most of whom had, like her, volunteered to wear the uniform of the nation's armed forces in the dark years between 1939 and 1945. They too had lost comrades and friends; their sacrifice had made flesh of her own vow of service, made as a young woman shortly after the war.

I think she understood even then that the colonies had not fought to preserve the crumbling reality of the empire she would inherit, but rather

for an idea of what it could be. In the coming days the Queen will be mourned in Malawi as she will be in Manchester. Delhi announced its own day of state-sponsored obsequies ahead of London. They won't just be memorialising the person but celebrating a set of values. People all over the world came to see that she believed it was the aspirations for fairness, justice and democracy that held together what she once called "our great imperial family".

Even when her ministers appeared to want the reverse, her own conduct remained true to Britain's boast of championing justice over expediency. At the start of her reign it could not have been easy to pursue such a course given the prevailing attitudes of the establishment whose summit she occupied. On Coronation Day, the loudest cheers, other than for the young Queen herself, were reserved for the famously statuesque Queen Salote Tupou III of Tonga. Unlike

**She will be mourned in Malawi as she will be in Manchester**

every other dignitary, Salote had remained obstinately bareheaded. Her traditions demanded deference to the new monarch despite a huge downpour. In a snobbish put-down that delighted many, Noël Coward, when asked who the small man by Salote's side was, replied: "Her lunch." Elizabeth II, by contrast, showered her fellow sovereign with honours, and more importantly, her friendship. In 1961 she took to an



In 1998, the Queen held a reception for passengers of Empire Windrush

Accra dance floor with the Ghanaian president, Kwame Nkrumah, thought by many to be a potential Soviet puppet, and who only four years before had jettisoned her as head of state. It caused a stir internationally. Segregation was still legal in our closest ally, the United States, and two years later a parliamentary seat would be won by a candidate whose leaflets warned that "if you want a n\*\*\*\*\* for a neighbour, vote Labour".

But she knew what she was doing. Her aim was always to build a family of nations dedicated to British values and the vehicle for that was, she realised, not a rump empire but a multicultural Commonwealth. Few recall now that in 1975, when Ian Smith's renegade regime declared

independence for Rhodesia, it named her Queen. She coolly turned her back on the invitation. She remains popular throughout the former empire. Many like me attended schools with names like Queens College or the Royal School. They retain these titles; even in republican nations there is little appetite to sever the link.

Having inherited a Commonwealth of just seven nations, she leaves behind a family of 56, some of which were never British colonies, with others knocking at the door. And in an act of sheer political legerdemain, she settled any arguments about the symbolic leadership of the organisation by naming her son successor two years ago and daring anyone to challenge her. No one did.

There is another reason that many political leaders across the globe are bowing their heads in deference. She was probably the best politician in the world. Her challenges were not like theirs, granted, though I am told on good authority she distrusted President Putin from the first moment she clapped eyes on him. The missteps after the death of the Princess of Wales led even serious people to mutter about the end of the monarchy. Camilla was the most hated woman in Britain. Some even argued that the crown should skip a generation. A series of scandals dragged the Windsor name through the mud.

Yet with a deft mixture of symbolic contrition, wit and superlative oratory each of these potential landmines has been defused. The Olympic James Bond spoof and tea with Paddington endeared her to a new generation. The "We will meet

again" response to Covid rallied and refreshed the reservoir of affection of an older cohort. The magical transformation of Camilla, now Queen Consort, into the kind of jolly, book-loving, naughty great-aunt you might nip out into the garden to share a fag with, passed with barely a murmur.

The Queen's own resolute absence of self-pity since the death of the Duke of Edinburgh was a silent reproach to the fashion for social media psychotherapy favoured by some of her younger relatives. Most important of all, she has achieved the goal sought by most great leaders — and in which they routinely fail — to deliver a smooth transition to the successor they have chosen. Charles will be protected by his mother's anointment and his son has already been installed in the public mind (superbly aided by his born-to-it wife) as the natural leader of his generation and those to follow.

Some progressives may hope this is the beginning of the end of the royal story. I suspect that after a thousand years, even a single moderately unpopular reign won't deliver what Cromwell, the Levellers and Adolf Hitler could not. This monarchy may not work for every nation but it has worked for us. It is arguable that the certainty of constitutional stability has been an encouragement to an easy acceptance of social change over the centuries dating back to the first Elizabeth. The rest of the world, not least post-Trump America, might just think we had gone mad with grief if we fail to confirm that the triumph of the past 70 years is as much ours as hers.

## Melissa Harrison Nature Notebook

### Rain returns but too late to repair our parched land

**S**ome rain at last: not enough to end the drought that grips most regions of the UK, but still, I'll take it. An overnight shower has watered my garden, washed the grimy tarmac, created puddles for animals to drink from, and should soon urge the crisp, blond grass to green again.

Until Tuesday there had been no meaningful rain in my part of Suffolk since June 17, when 1.2cm fell. In June, July and August we only had 2.7cm instead of the 16.7cm an average year would bring; every so often, during those months, the forecast would predict a shower, but each time the likelihood fell as its hour approached and all we'd get was a few minutes of damp descending air that barely darkened the village lanes. This in an area

whose flatness denies it the orographic precipitation other parts of the country enjoy, and in an already arid period, last winter being East Anglia's third driest on record.

Numbers, statistics, percentages: the truth is that it's painful to truly describe how desperate things became here after months without rain. Going for a walk stopped being a pleasure and instead was a painful encounter with unfolding distress. The glossy, evergreen *Hedera helix* carpeting a local spinney is now a blanket of crunchy, grey-brown ivy leaves; near by, on the hedges, what should be sloes hang like shrivelled raisins next to dead blackthorn leaves. The ponds and ditches have been cracked and empty for weeks, and will remain so despite the shower; out of sight, insects, birds and mammals in their millions have suffered and died of simple thirst.

In the next village, sugar beets withered in the fields while chaff and stubble left over from the early grain harvest lie on the ground like tinder, and every few days brought a new field fire. Without rain our farmers haven't been able to cultivate the soil or drill next year's crops, while those with livestock have been forced

to feed them their winter rations as there is no grass left for them to eat.

Running beneath all the conscious worries — for the farmers, for the wildlife, for the struggling trees — I've been trying to suppress a deeper feeling: one of bone-deep, unignorable fear. It's one thing to know that climate breakdown is coming; another to feel yourself in its implacable grip.

#### Rare pleasure

I've been longing for a trip to the north of England, not least to satisfy a growing hunger for green, growing things. Upper Teesdale is one of five botanical hotspots in Britain and Ireland, a unique landscape where rare plants such as spring gentians, hoary whitlowgrass, Alpine bistort and bird's-eye primrose can be found. The "Teesdale assemblage" of rare plants is thought to have survived there continuously since the last Ice Age, and includes southern species at the very northern edge of their range, northern species at the southern edge of their range and two that are found nowhere else in the UK. It's likely that other, similarly magical areas have been lost over the years simply for lack of recognition.

That the Teesdale plants are celebrated and studied is in large part due to one woman: the botanist



Drought allows dead leaves and badger droppings to persist on soil's surface

so that instead of breaking down and disappearing, animal faeces, fallen leaves, dead insects and shed feathers simply persist on the soil's surface, for week after week after week.

Chillingly, this lack of decay mirrors findings in Chernobyl's fallout zone: the insects, microbes and fungi that do the vital work of decomposition were wiped out, and for many years fallen leaves simply built up every autumn instead of becoming mulch and then new soil. Even dead, irradiated trees remained unchanged for decades, barring a little attention from forest ants.

Here, a stoat dropping I photographed in July was in exactly the same place nearly six weeks later, only dehydrated, while the badgers' dung in their shallow latrines became a lingering visual diary of June's wild cherry stones, July's maize kernels and August's blackberry seeds. For so long everything has felt dusty, dirty, withered and changeless. I long for more rain to release us from the drought's awful stasis back into the ordinary flow of time.

**The Stubborn Light of Things: A Nature Diary** is out in paperback now



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# Worlds apart yet so alike: Mum and the Queen

Two deaths in a week remind me that the thrift and stoicism of the wartime generation were shared across classes

**Janice Turner**



@VICTORIAPECKHAM

**I**t is a strange time to mourn a mother. After a race north last weekend to say goodbye and a bedside wait which, however old the dying parent, ends in a brutal shock, I've watched it all reprised in royal guise. But there is solace too. Unlike a grieving Auden wishing he could "stop all the clocks" I find radio voices sombre, this newspaper black-edged: my personal state aligns with the national mood.

I used to joke that my mum refused to die before the Queen but in the end she lost by five days. Although in fairness, at almost 99, she beat Her Majesty by two years. As a devoted subject, a keeper of royal photo supplements who left a stash of commemorative china going back to "the old king" George V, she'd have enjoyed her mortal proximity to the Queen, although been annoyed to have missed such a funeral on TV.

The similarities between them felt ever more pronounced in recent years. It's not just that old age is a leveller, which shrinks and pains

royal and common bodies alike, it was how they both dealt with it.

The frail Queen jamming on a bright hat to open the Elizabeth Line was my mum taking a taxi 200 miles to London alone for my birthday party, then staying up until the last guest left at 3am. Don't moan, keep going, stay useful, proudly resist all walking paraphernalia and kindly assistance — "I can do it myself!" — until you have no other choice.

Before the baby boomers, who demanded the world shape-shift to fit their desires, there was a generation too busy fighting a war to have a name. Growing up as Europe darkened was to be surrounded by grave adults and denied a carefree

**Only in adulthood do you see clearly what your parents stood for**

youth. Yet for young women the war was a rare source of adventure.

While Princess Elizabeth badgered her father to let her join the ATS and took pride in changing a wheel, my mother left home at 17 to roll cordite in a munitions factory. That it was dangerous work, once burning off her eyebrows, mattered less than the fun of joining a troupe of girls, puffing Embassy on the train

back to their digs, as free as they'd ever be again.

The war forged a stoicism I hated when young. I scorned my parents' acceptance of their lot, their low horizons and modest material ambitions. My parents had me at 40, very late back then, and I craved a young mum who wore mini-skirts and liked pop songs. With her weekly shampoo and set, shirtwaister dresses and dowdy shoes, mine seemed stuffy, old-fashioned and dull. Like the Queen, who punk told me then "ain't no human being".

Only in adulthood do you see clearly what your parents stood for, what they gave you and at what cost. It is odd to feel my mother shared values with a woman who lived in palaces, wore jewels and dined with potentates. But when a young Prince Andrew returned from a dog walk having lost a lead, a furious Queen sent him back to find it. In her homes were two-bar electric fires, Tupperware, less-than-cutting-edge TVs.

The obscenity of waste, of just binning a broken object and buying a flashy new one rather than fixing it, patching it up or, at worst, saving it because the parts might later be useful, was hard-wired by rationing and war.

This week, when the undertaker asked about my mother's hobbies

and interests, I listed baking, jam-making and, long ago, knitting and sewing. Given my late father grew all his own vegetables, it struck me that almost all their leisure was really a form of work. Done either out of thrift and self-sufficiency, or for me, then later for my sons.

My mother couldn't swim or ride a bicycle, let alone drive a car. She didn't go abroad until she was 65 or on a plane until I took her as a 70th birthday surprise. She left school at

**The Queen favoured two-bar electric fires, Tupperware, old TVs**

14, qualified for only the most menial work, the tasks no one notices unless they're not done. At the United Services Club her father ran, she pulled pints, scrubbed floors, black-leaded grates, washed glasses. When I was a child she rose at 6am to clean pub toilets and earn a little money of her own. Or rather to pass on to me for school trips and silly shoes.

The scent I associate with her isn't a perfume but the smell of a hot iron on cotton sheets. I think of her staying up after midnight sewing my dress for a Christmas party. Did I thank her? I dread to think.

In his poem *Those Winter Sundays* Robert Hayden remembers his

father getting up in the "blueblack cold" to light a fire so the house was warm when his family rose. Hayden says he spoke to him "indifferently", although he had "polished my good shoes as well", and calls these unsung duties "love's austere and lonely offices".

And the Queen knew about those too. Our strange system whereby we contract out to one mystical person all the ribbon-snipping and bouquet gathering, the full weight of national mourning and celebration, must have meant enduring many days when she had to fix her smile, stand politely for hours so as not to disappoint, and make nice with presidents and dignitaries she abhorred.

The Queen girded herself to meet her last prime minister two days before she died and, most austere and lonely of all, sat at her husband's funeral in uncomfited solitude.

"Two queens, one week," texted my son's girlfriend. But also two women: selfless, middlebrow, of steady temperament, little vanity, and underestimated diplomacy and strength. Two ever-present, seemingly indestructible figures from early last century, whose contemporaries were swallowed by history long ago. The last of their kind: the mother of our nation, and my one and only mum.

## Letters to the Editor



### Truss's response to the energy crisis

Sir, Emma Duncan's article on Liz Truss's decision to permit fracking again in Britain is to be applauded ("At last, a PM who dares to say yes to fracking", Sep 8). I take issue though with her point that fracking in the US raises household income by \$1,900. As she says, this is because of royalty payments, among other factors. In the US, local landowners, large and small, receive royalty payments as mineral rights owners, directly from the oil and gas companies. In the UK the state is the owner of all rights to gas and receives all the royalties. Acceptance of fracking here would be much improved if royalty income more directly reached those affected by the activity.

**Lord Torrington**

Mere, Wilts

Sir, It is very kind of Liz Truss to subsidise my energy bills by borrowing lots more money, especially as at my age I will probably be dead before I have to pay it back ("Two-year price freeze to cut bills by £1,000", Sep 9). However, it is not so good for young people, who will be saddled with paying the debt for the pandemic as well as their student loans and now this energy bill long after I am gone.

**Ian Nelson**

Overstone, Northants

Sir, Further to Harry Wallop's article "I'm a lumberjack and I'll be OK this winter" (Times2, Sep 8), burning offcuts and discarded domestic and industrial wood in volume on a stove in the way he describes, rather than using seasoned logs from a reputable log merchant, produces disproportionate amounts of urban air particulates and should be discouraged.

**Laurence Young**

Faversham, Kent

### More NHS capacity

Sir, James Forsyth correctly describes the immediate challenges facing the NHS and emphasises the lack of capacity of staff and beds ("NHS is a bigger problem than energy bills", Sep 9). This aspect can be alleviated immediately by encouraging the use of suitable overseas facilities. India and eastern European hospitals are examples of where routine operations can be performed more cheaply and more quickly than in the NHS, which would gain capacity by paying the costs involved.

**Oliver Chapple**

Upper Milton, Oxon

### Corrections and clarifications

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## Personal touch of an unforgettable Queen

Sir, There were few places where the late Queen's deep Christian faith was more evident than in Crathie Church, Aberdeenshire, where she attended worship every Sunday together with the local congregation while she was resident in Balmoral. I vividly recall while preaching there looking across at the royal pew and seeing her enthusiastically singing a Scots metrical psalm, which she clearly knew by heart. Like her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria, she had a fondness for the simplicity and dignity of Presbyterian worship in the Church of Scotland. It is fitting as well as poignant that she should have died just across the River Dee from her beloved Crathie Kirk and that her coffin will rest for two days in St Giles Cathedral, the mother church of Scots Presbyterians.

**The Rev Professor Ian Bradley**  
Emeritus professor of cultural and spiritual history, St Andrews; author, *God Save the Queen: the Spiritual Dimension of Monarchy*

Sir, Nobody forgets a conversation with the Queen. On a ferociously hot day in 2011 a reception was held in St James's Palace to honour the work of volunteers, and we were all wilting. There was a slight stir and suddenly the Queen arrived, looking fresh and cool in a blue-and-white dress. She came over to the group where I was standing and I was introduced to her. "Why are you here?" she asked. I explained that Childline was answered by volunteers, and added, my brain unravelling: "You'll probably think me mad but I'm wondering whether to try to set up a similar helpline for older people." She thought for a moment, then said, "I suppose children and older people sometimes suffer the same kinds of problem." I agreed, and after another moment's thought she said: "I don't think it's mad. I think it's rather brave." I wonder if she ever realised how inspirational that conversation was in the setting up of the Silver Line Helpline.

**Dame Esther Rantzen**  
Bramshaw, Hants

Sir, I was born in Ceylon in the dying days of the British Empire, seven years before the start of the second Elizabethan era. I was nine when the Queen and Prince Philip made a state visit in April 1954. My abiding memory is of a young and beautiful Queen riding in an open limousine and passing within yards of the front veranda of my house on Galle Road, Colombo. The event was preceded by

weeks of feverish excitement, which included the erection of a platform for viewing the event with family and friends. When the moment finally came the monarch's cavalcade passed by, with Her Majesty making her gracious gentle wave — a precious image that is etched in my memory.

**Mrs Priya Wickramasinghe**  
Cardiff

Sir, In 1954 the Queen visited Bradford. My mother took me, aged seven, and my brother, aged nine, to watch her arrival at the town hall. All we saw was the roof of her Rolls-Royce, and we were in tears. So Mother took us to see her departure from Manningham station. Again, we couldn't get anywhere near. Tears again. My resourceful mother then led us along a street or two, darted down an alley, pushed us up on a wall, and told us to watch and wait. After the music and cheering at the station died down, half a mile to our right the royal train drew towards us. Behind a glass carriage door stood our Queen and Prince Philip. They had thrown off their coats, and stood together looking out, with their arms round each other. No doubt they were glad their official duties were over, but when they saw two little boys on the wall they came alive, really waving — just for us. That wasn't duty, it was love.

**Mike Hattersley**  
Milton, Cumbria

Sir, The Queen carried out her constitutional responsibilities punctiliously, and constitutional controversies involving her were very few indeed. Her appointment of Harold Macmillan as prime minister in 1957 and Alec Douglas-Home in 1963 have been criticised by some, in the first case for relying on the opinions of just a few senior Conservatives, and in the second for accepting the (subsequently disputed) soundings of the outgoing prime minister, Macmillan. But the Conservatives didn't elect their leader until 1965. On both occasions the Queen acted on the best information available to her. King Charles III has a superb exemplar to follow, while of course making the new reign his own.

**Rodney Brazier**  
Emeritus professor of constitutional law, University of Manchester

Sir, Your excellent editorial ("A Life of Service", Sep 9) will be read by historians in future generations to understand why the Queen was so beloved of her people. One phrase in

it jarred, however. You said the Queen was (and thus King Charles III is) Supreme Governor of the Church of England owing to "an accident of history". In fact their supreme role goes to the heart of the Protestant Reformation of the 1530s, the Act of Supremacy of 1534, and the Thirty-Nine Articles of 1571, which were key moments in making England the independent country that she is today.

**Andrew Roberts**

Author, *The House of Windsor*

Sir, When the Queen's death was announced I was in the audience at the RSC in Stratford-upon-Avon waiting for *Richard III* to begin. Instead the director, Gregory Doran, came on stage and gave an improvised speech in praise of Her Majesty made up of quotes from Shakespeare. It was a memorable and moving moment when history, culture and art converged. It was also quintessentially British. As he said: "Shakespeare always had the words for it."

**John Crampton**

Warwick

Sir, The footballing authorities had a difficult decision but made the wrong one ("Last Night of the Proms and sporting fixtures cancelled", Sep 9). There was no cause for postponement; black armbands and the national anthem would have been sufficient. Other sporting events are going ahead; kick-offs would have been two days after the Queen's death, and the nation would have paid tribute without normal life being stopped. It would have been a reasonable decision had matches actually clashed with the Queen's funeral.

**David Weston**

Oxford

Sir, It is a pity that the BBC has decided to cancel the Last Night of the Proms. If anyone was a Keep Calm and Carry On person it was the Queen. And the singing of the national anthem on the last night would have been a memorable expression of emotion.

**David Shepherd**

Woodstock, Oxfordshire

Sir, The queue for the Queen Mother's lying in state was up to eight hours. I anticipate a similar queue for the Queen's lying in state so shall have a pack of marmalade sandwiches in my pocket to sustain me over the hours, as a tribute to her sense of humour.

**Ian Proud**

London W5

fatal accidents or injuries to mar the general satisfaction. The citizens of Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle, and Bristol turned out in their thousands to see the race, nor were Londoners behind in their interest. We are especially glad that the Air Race was so planned as to include in its circuit these great centres of population. The race attracted "enormous" crowds and it undoubtedly marked an advance in both airmanship and "reliability", though there were too many forced landings. The numbers completing the course compare favourably with the figures of the last flight round Britain, when only three airmen finished, and one came in a week afterwards. And yet it is impossible to help contrasting the advance which would have been recorded if the Government had ever since the Armistice, treated aviation with even a modest amount of imagination and foresight. No one who knows what is

being done in the way of research in other countries can view the situation without grave concern. The safety and reliability of air transport has been proved over and over, and it only needs encouragement to confer on this country benefits both to industry and to the general convenience comparable to those brought by railways and motor-cars. But where is this encouragement to be found? A return ticket by air from London to Cologne will from October 1 cost ten guineas. The first-class return fare by railway from London to Glasgow is £9 13s. Why should not the great provincial cities, ignoring the Government's inertia, act in concert to secure an organized system of daily air services? Their reward would be great, and they would remove a standing reproach to British energy and initiative.

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Letters to the Editor should be sent to letters@thetimes.co.uk or by post to 1 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9GF

## Wigs in court

Sir, As well as meeting the Criminal Bar Association to discuss legal aid rates and barristers' strikes (letter, Sep 8), perhaps the new lord chancellor and justice secretary could review the anachronism of wearing wigs and gowns, which still persists in most criminal trials. A barrister's wig costs about £400 (it is more for the "vegan option", seriously) and a gown starts at about £100. You can pay much more for both. Then add in the cost of collars and bands. Even though tax-allowable, these are ludicrous expenses for any legal aid barrister. Those courts that no longer require this form of dress have shown that society's faith in the justice system does not depend on lawyers wearing horsehair and capes.

**Robin Jackson**

Abingdon, Oxon

## Whiff of disease

Sir, You report on the idea that patients with Parkinson's have a distinct odour ("Three-minute test to spot Parkinson's", Sep 7). I used to think that legionnaires' disease also had a distinctive smell and, on a more prosaic level, the smell of acetone on a person's breath is a serious warning sign if they are diabetic. If the patient is a child, this tells you that they are not malingering. Tragically, medicine is now learnt in the lecture theatre rather than at the bedside and face-to-face consultations are almost extinct. Until machines can be taught to smell, it's all a bit academic.

**Dr Martin Press**

Ret'd consultant physician, Southampton

## Fifth-week blues

Sir, Dame Susan Hill's letter ("Student sympathy", Sep 8) reminded me of my son's plaintive call seeking permission to bring some friends home for lunch soon after he had started university. A good meal satisfied everyone and they left happy. I subsequently learnt that this phenomenon is known as the five-week blues. We were therefore ready when our daughter started university two years later.

**Kenneth Waters**

Southwold, Suffolk

## Give back Gospels

Sir, How refreshing to read Richard Morrison's view that the British Library should return the Lindisfarne Gospels to the northeast of England, where they were made and from where they were stolen by Henry VIII's commissioners (Times2, Sep 9). The oft-repeated claim by the British Library that the Gospels' present location is best suited to researchers and visitors is nonsense. Durham Cathedral, from which they were taken and to where they should return, is only a short flight or train ride from London. Researchers and tourists alike may well find it more fitting and atmospheric than the austerity of the British Library.

**Dick Godfrey**

Newcastle on Tyne

## Suitcases of cash

Sir, Further to the letter by Charles Dewhurst ("Action-packed", Sep 8), the mantra that I have always used is: "Pack half the clothes and take twice the money." This has served me well over the past 50 years.

**Barrie Shore**

Darwen, Lancs

## Daily Universal Register

UK: King Charles III is proclaimed the new sovereign; senior parliamentarians swear their oath to the King at the House of Commons, with tributes to Elizabeth II.

## Birthdays today



Colin Firth, pictured, actor, *The King's Speech* (2010), 62; Sir Thomas Allen, opera singer, chancellor, Durham University (2011–July 2022), 78; Rt Rev Dr John Armes, bishop of

Edinburgh, 67; Baroness (Lorely) Burt of Solihull, Lib Dem MP (2005–15), 68; Prof Jane Clarke, biochemist, president, Wolfson College, Cambridge, 72; Misty Copeland, ballerina, 40; Isabel Colegate, novelist, *The Shooting Party* (1980), 91; Edmund de Waal, ceramic artist, 58; Baroness (Audrey) Emerton, president, Florence Nightingale Foundation (2014–16), 87; Siobhan Fahey, singer-songwriter, Bananarama, 64; Liv Garfield, chief executive, Severn Trent water authority, 47; Jack Grealish, footballer, 27; "Diddy" David Hamilton, disc jockey, 84; Richard Harpin, founder and chief executive, HomeServe and Growth Partner, 58; Marian Keyes, writer, *Again, Rachel* (2022), 59; Dame Shân Legge-Bourke, lord-lieutenant of Powys (1998–2018), 79; Peter Lovesey, writer, *Diamond and the Eye* (2021), 86; Jack Ma, co-founder of Alibaba, 58; Eoin Morgan, cricketer, 36; Sir David Pountney, artistic director, Welsh National Opera (2011–19), 75; Guy Ritchie, film director, 54; Peter Straus, managing director, RCW literary agency, 62; Viscount (John) Thurso, chairman, VisitScotland, 69; Prof Janet Todd, literary scholar and author, 80.

## Birthdays tomorrow



Moby, pictured, musician, *Play* (1999), 57; Mo Abudu, media entrepreneur, 58; Philip Ardagh, children's writer, the Eddie Dickens series of books, 61; Richard Ashcroft, singer-songwriter, the Verve, 51; Catherine Bott, soprano and broadcaster, 70; Nicolas Brown, director, Neal Street Productions, director of drama at the BBC (2006–2012), 57; Anthony Browne, children's laureate (2009–2011), 76; Jonny Buckland, guitarist, Coldplay, 45; Paul Cole, racehorse trainer, British flat racing Champion Trainer (1991), 81; Julie Covington, singer and actress, *Don't Cry for Me, Argentina* (1977), 76; Brian De Palma, film director, *Carrie* (1976), 82; Timothy Fyfche, president, Macular Society, surgeon-oculist to the Queen (1999–2001), 86; Mickey Hart, drummer, the Grateful Dead, 79; Judith Howarth, soprano, 60; Clive Lewis, Labour MP for Norwich South, shadow Treasury minister (2018–20), 51; Jon Moss, drummer, Culture Club, 65; Queen Paola of Belgium, 85; Lord (James) Sasso, president, China-Britain Business Council, 67; Sir Neville Simms, chairman, Thames Tideway Tunnel, 78; Sir Jonathan Swift, High Court judge, judge in charge of the administrative court, 58; Roger Uttley, rugby union player, England (1973–80, and five-time captain) and British Lions (1974), 73; Prof Julie Williams, chief scientific adviser for Wales (2013–17), 65.

## On this day

In 1967 the people of Gibraltar voted in favour of remaining under British rule. Only 44 were in favour of Spanish sovereignty of the Rock, against 12,138.

## The last word

"Don't be afraid of death so much as an inadequate life." Bertolt Brecht, dramatist and poet, *The Mother* (1931)



# Crown and Convention

A constitutional monarchy serves a crucial function in a modern democratic age by transcending politics and binding a diverse and pluralist nation

Queen Elizabeth II was unfailingly dignified but never stuffy. Her conduct reflected her character. A monarch less attuned to precedent and public sentiment would have been unable to successfully carry off, let alone elicit delight with, such stunts as tea with Paddington Bear or a helicopter leap with James Bond. The skill with which she aligned the crown with modern mores is easy to overlook because of the ease with which she managed it.

King Charles will approach this task in his own way but he will have an invaluable guide in his mother's example. For the citizens of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, his accession to the throne is an opportunity to reflect on the gains to civic life that a constitutional monarchy can bestow in a modern, pluralist polity.

The very fact that government officials in Britain are designated ministers of the crown, or that legislation still requires the formal assent of the monarch, may appear an anachronism in a parliamentary democracy. The Victorian constitutionalist Walter Bagehot distinguished between the "efficient" and "ceremonial" tasks of government, with the monarch performing the latter, but even this insight does not fully explain the role of monarchy in our age. The crown is rooted in this country's traditions but has survived, and under the late

Queen thrived, not only through ceremony but through continual adaptation.

In the 70 years of the Queen's reign, Britain changed radically. It is more ethnically diverse and less socially deferential. Religious belief, let alone membership of the established Church, has declined. The family unit takes various forms, and the stigma of birth outside wedlock is largely banished. Through all this, the monarchy has served as a unifying symbol of a variegated and pluralist society. It was not only the Queen's empathetic personality that made it so; it was, pre-eminently, her sense of duty. The monarchy can only bind the nation if it speaks to every citizen and scrupulously stands above partisanship.

This is a paradox in a democratic state. Politics, unless it descends into destructive utopian schemes, requires recognising that not all good things are compatible, and that trade-offs are necessary. A constitutional monarchy ensures that even those on the losing side in a political argument have a tangible stake in the nation's affairs.

This might not have happened as Britain evolved into a representative democracy with universal adult suffrage. Joseph Chamberlain, among the most consequential statesmen of the age, wrote in 1871: "The republic must come, and at the

rate at which we are moving, it will come in our generation." In truth, republicanism has never been a force in British politics, but it is easy to understand this observation in the light of Queen Victoria's reluctance to perform public duties. A *Times* leader in 1864 warned: "It is impossible for a recluse to occupy the British throne without a gradual weakening of that authority which the sovereign has been accustomed to exert."

Civic engagement without partisan leanings is the essence of constitutional monarchy. And it is hard. It demands of the sovereign a devotion to service far beyond mere goodwill and charitable endeavour, and also a sure sense of how to avoid any hint of intervention in the normal run of politics. The Queen had all of this, as did her forebears.

King George V managed to skilfully navigate his way through a constitutional crisis in 1910, when he ascended the throne, relating to the reforming Liberal government's budget and possible civil war in Ireland. He was not an intellectual but he was wise. As he ascends the throne, King Charles gives every indication of being imbued with a similar sense of purpose. He represents a constitutional order that encompasses but stands above sectional interests. The devoted wishes of the nation and Commonwealth are with him.

# Soft Power

The global outpouring of admiration for the late Queen has been remarkable

If anyone doubted the extraordinary esteem in which the late Queen Elizabeth II was held around the world, one only need look at the warmth and generosity of the tributes that have poured in since she died on Thursday. These have gone far beyond the diplomatic formalities demanded by protocol as world leaders share their personal reflections of the Queen and the role that she played on the global stage during her 70-year reign. News of her death has led bulletins and dominated front pages across the world's media, a reflection not just on her worldwide celebrity but the extent to which she had been a reassuring constant presence for the world as well as Britain.

There is no question this admiration and respect for the Queen is genuine. President Joe Biden has ordered all flags on US government buildings around the world to be flown at half mast until her funeral, a remarkable gesture for a foreign head of state. President Emmanuel Macron, in a heartfelt tribute of remarkable elegance that reflected the "special status" she held in France, wrote that: "She who stood with the giants of the 20th century on the path of history has now left to

join them." Flags are flying at half mast on European Union buildings in Brussels and government buildings across Europe. Even Cuba has ordered flags to fly at half mast on the day of her funeral.

In many cases, the outpourings of affection have been fuelled by personal recollections. As the world's longest-serving head of state, the Queen came to know many world leaders personally, invariably impressing them with her wise counsel. In the course of her reign, she visited more than 100 countries and memories of her state visits often left memories that have abided to this day. Reflections in Ireland, for example, were dominated by memories of her state visit in 2011. Her personal insistence that this be extended to four days from the planned two, her visit to the Garden of Remembrance to honour those who died in the Easter Rising of 1916 and her decision to defy advice by opening her speech to the state banquet with some words in the Irish language, helped deliver a remarkable reconciliation between these two islands after decades of strained relations.

The strength and depth of the global reaction to the Queen's passing is testimony to the enduring

soft power that Britain derives from its monarchy. The Britain to whose throne the Queen acceded in 1952 was still the headquarters of a global empire. That Britain retained an outsize global influence even after that empire had crumbled is in part testimony to the Queen's tireless efforts as head of state in promoting Britain's interests. In a moving tribute in parliament yesterday, Theresa May, the former prime minister, noted that the Queen was more than simply a figurehead. "I am sometimes asked among all the heads of state or government I met, who was the most impressive. And I have no hesitation in saying...the most impressive was her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II."

Yet there is no reason that this soft power should be in any way diminished by the accession of King Charles III. The new king is already an established global figure in his own right, a familiar face from his own many official visits to dozens of countries and recognised for his leadership in important causes from conservation to interfaith relations that he has championed over many decades. The Queen may be dead but the monarchy endures, a potent force in the projection of British values.

# Queen of Scots

Her Majesty's commitment to the Union endured to the end

It was fitting that the Queen should spend her last days in Scotland. She loved the country, spending at least a quarter of every year at Balmoral. A countrywoman at heart, photographs of her engaged in traditional rural pursuits in remote Aberdeenshire are notable for her broad smile, a happy contrast to the more careworn expression she often wore at formal events in London.

The Queen's affection for Scotland was matched only by the seriousness with which she took her role as head of state of "the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Indeed, on the few occasions when she came close to

expressing political opinions, they tended to involve defending the Union. At her Silver Jubilee in 1977, with pressure for devolution growing, she spoke pointedly in a speech to parliament of "the benefits which Union has conferred".

Shortly prior to the independence referendum in 2014, she told a well-wisher outside Balmoral she hoped Scots "would think very carefully about the future" when they voted. David Cameron indiscreetly disclosed she "purred down the phone" when he gave her the news of the No vote. And yet the Scottish National Party is not republican and Nicola Sturgeon was always keen to

emphasise her respect for the Queen. It must be hoped that respect will now extend to her son.

King Charles will soon be back north of the border, where the Lord Provost of Edinburgh will hand him the keys to the city. The sovereign will then join his siblings in a Vigil of the Princes around their mother's coffin in St Giles' Cathedral. He will also visit Belfast and Cardiff before the funeral. The Union was hugely important to the late Queen. Her son is right to signal so early in his reign that he recognises its importance too, and intends to honour his predecessor's legacy and cherish every part of his United Kingdom.

## Comment

# Grieving nation's instant reaction a far cry from 1952

Rose Wild  
Feedback



@TIMESFEEDBACK

**O**n Thursday evening readers were in touch as soon as news of the Queen's death was announced. Reactions arrived from all over the world, in comments below articles on the website and emails to Feedback and the letters page. These opportunities for expressing an instant reaction were far removed from when our last monarch died in 1952. Letters in those days arrived at *The Times* offices by post or, in some cases, were delivered by hand. In any case, days elapsed before any were published about the death of George VI.

One that did make it into print

illustrated the difficulties of long-distance letter writing. Canon Venables of St George's Chapel, Windsor, wrote that he had recently hosted a party of refugees from Europe, "young people who are still suffering the loss of all things, but brave beyond belief. The following letter from one of them, a young Latvian in hospital, reached me today. 'Dear Reverend, As it was known to me by radio that his Majesty King George VI is deceased, I ask you kindly to accept my affectionate condolence. The whole world has lost a great man. With kind regards, Guntis Prieditis'".

Another letter, from the controller of European services for the BBC, described how the death of a monarch in the age of radio had become an international event. His office had received hundreds of similar letters and telegrams. "Apart from the war, no single event in the past ten years has produced such a spontaneous response."

One hot issue played out in the letters page was the cancellation of sporting events. Gordon Clark wrote an indignant letter about the FA's decision to carry on with its fixtures. "While Rugby Union football, racing, hunting coursing, and many other sports are all respectfully silent before the nation's sorrow, football clubs are advised to content themselves with the exhibition of merely outward signs of grief. It is to be hoped that loyal citizens will censure such conduct by staying away from the matches and thus show to the purveyors of their entertainment how much they are out of touch with popular sentiment."

In reply, Stanley Rous, then the FA's secretary, said millions of spectators "had welcomed the opportunity to join in silent prayer and the singing of the late King's favourite hymn. In so doing they mourned not only a much loved Sovereign but the patron of the Football Association".

Football was still to some extent seen as a working-class game, and this clearly influenced his response. Official advice, he said, was that social events should be cancelled but that work should carry on. "To professional footballers the playing of matches is work. Had the matches been scratched, many men would have faced enforced 'unemployment' for ten days. It was adjudged that the cancellation of professional matches would cause hardship of the very type which the Royal Family have always been so anxious to avoid."

Different times.

## Touchy subject

**A**mong the letters we have published in response to the deaths of sovereigns is one which reveals how the spirit of Feedback dates back to the earliest days of this paper. This is from 1830, shortly after the demise of George IV.

"Sir, It has become the constant practice of those who furnish paragraphs to the newspapers, whenever they have occasion to mention a death, to call it 'a demise'. Why, they alone, perhaps, can explain. But I should like to know how they can prove death to be a demise, or show that a demise and a decease are one and the same thing. The term 'demise of the Crown' is doubtless a proper one, but 'the demise of the King' I take to be great nonsense, and highly improper. I wish you, or some of your sensible correspondents, would convince the penny-a-liners, that they are wrong. Demise no more means death or decease than it means horsepond, in which those who persist in misapplying the term should by all means be ducked."

"I am, Sir, yours, &c, R."

## By all measures

**J**onathan Ward writes that he was amused to find, in last Thursday's story about a trove of gold coins, a reference "to a pot 'about the size of a Diet Coke can'. Is this a new standard to go with Nelson's Column, double-decker buses and Wales?"

The drink can was the contribution

of Gregory Edmund, of Spink & Son, who will be selling the coins. I've no idea if it's a standard unit of comparison in auction circles, or whether he just drinks a lot, but it is useful and easily understood and may well catch on.

Brian Hodgkinson wrote from Arnold, Nottingham, "I'd like to thank your science reporter, Kaya Burgess, for including in his report on a newly discovered planet its distance from Earth in actual miles — 588 trillion — as well as in light years — 100. Long may this continue, as it gives non-scientific folk such as myself some idea of the enormous extent of the universe."

Personally I find light years and trillions of miles equally hard to visualise. Diet Coke tins laid end to end? That might do it.

## Free bird

**T**wo weeks ago I discussed the dimensions of a peregrines' nesting box at Battersea Power Station. This prompted a cautionary tale from Lydia Schmitt of London SW4 for anyone who might be tempted to go and see them.

"My ornithological brother was briefly arrested some time ago when looking at nesting peregrines through his binoculars from the Marylebone flyover. The police apparently thought he was trying to look into the bedrooms of a nearby hotel. Happily, he was eventually released, with a document called a 'no crime notice', stating that the detainee had been 'looking at pelicans'."



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**I**t is a happy irony that there are no photographs of me dressed as perhaps the most photographed woman in the world. It was December 2000. A student Christmas party. I took the "fancy dress" instruction a bit literally, pouring my curves into a fancy dress fit for a Queen.

Silver wig. Glasses. Long white gloves. Blue sash. Cream court shoes. What a mess I was. Didn't matter. Instantly recognisable. Decades of public service reduced to a collection of panicked buys in the charity shops of Taunton. "You know!" I shouted over the strains of the Bahá'í Men's seminal work, *Who Let The Dogs Out?* "Like the Queen's Speech! On Christmas Day!"

The costume got another outing years later when hosting a charity auction for kidneys. Or maybe livers. It got a laugh anyway. But the joke,

I now realise, was on me. In fact the joke was never on her. What a life to have led that daft herbarts like me and other takers of the proverbial could find no purchase. No snide takes. No sideways looks. No tweets that go viral. What was there to go on? Privilege, of course, but who would want that life of listening to prime ministers moaning about how difficult everything is, and touring the country to the smell of fresh paint?

It is a strange thing that her 1950s concept of discretion and impartiality were precisely what meant she could survive in the Twitter age of fault-finding and calling foul on anyone who has ever expressed an opinion.

It meant the satirists had little to go on. No talking to the trees, or paedophile friends, or other people's husbands. Of course *Spitting Image*, and *Private Eye* had a go, but to no

## I once dressed up as the Queen, but soon realised the joke was on me

**Matt Chorley**

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great effect. Stanley Baxter hasn't done his turn as the Duchess of Brendagh for four decades. Jeannette Charles, perhaps the most famous Queen impersonator, retired eight years ago. Retirement no option when you're the real thing. Indeed, the concern whenever trying to send up the Queen was the fear of offending, not amusing.

I remember one editor angrily telling me I was never to refer to her as "Liz".

I get it now. Because people like me are here today, gone tomorrow. Dispensable. Chip paper. Refreshed pixels. Who are we to ask "what's the point of you?" of someone who served and toured and guided and delighted and frustrated and waved to the country. Nobody has done more for Britain that

we dearly hope can now survive. Nobody has done more for the cottage industry of those who make the little curtains that pull back on the regal yank of a braided cord.

In 2002, as a trainee reporter, I covered a visit by the Queen to Taunton. I tried my hand at some photography too. Just one of many thousands of such days for her. But one in a million for the crowds. And me. Last night I went into the loft and found the pictures, mostly of the back of her head. Yet instantly recognisable. Radiant in mint green, I wrote in the *Taunton Times*.

Almost one in three people say they have met or seen the Queen. Who knows how many dressed up as her too. Impossible to mock, the humour came from the failings of those around her — ourselves. I tried walking in her shoes for just one night, and it made my feet bleed.

# Colditz was far more complex than its myth

Postwar Britain needed to believe in simple heroes and villains, but today we can accept history is never black and white

**Ben Macintyre**

@BENMACINTYREI

**T**here were two Colditz prison camps. The first is familiar to Britons of a certain age; a vast gothic castle on a German hilltop that housed the most troublesome PoWs of the Second World War, a place deeply embedded in our national mythology.

The other prison, on the edge of the town, was a slave labour camp where hundreds of Jews from Buchenwald concentration camp were starved and worked to death. Aussenkommando 24, located inside an old china factory, contained about 700 Hungarian Jews producing arms for the German war effort. Those prisoners considered "unfit for work" were murdered. Life expectancy was approximately three and a half months.

The PoWs inside Colditz were completely unaware of this second camp, and the mass murder taking place just a few hundred yards away. Even their German guards claimed, less plausibly, to be ignorant of its existence. The day before Colditz was liberated by the American army, as the defeated German forces prepared to pull out of the town, the SS guards set about systematically murdering the Jewish prisoners, shooting them in batches of five.

The GIs discovered a handful of Jewish prisoners who had survived. Julius Green, a Jewish dentist from Glasgow, was appalled when they were brought to the castle sickbay: "Living skeletons, some of them with gunshot wounds and all desperately ill. Those I saw had been left for dead or had hidden." The dentist was not a man of violence, but the sight of the dying Hungarians triggered something savage in him: he obtained a pistol and set off to see if he could kill any loitering stormtroopers.

No one knows how many Jews perished at Aussenkommando 24.



Castle Colditz in Saxony, eastern Germany, and, left, Escape from Colditz, the 1973 board game

This other Colditz camp has been almost entirely omitted from history, eclipsed by the more familiar tale of PoWs in their grim hilltop fortress. But that is often how history works.

The Colditz story was originally framed by Pat Reid, a gung-ho, irrepressible figure, who escaped and went on to write a series of books about the camp. For Reid, escaping was a game; he even devised a board game, *Escape from Colditz*, which I spent my childhood playing as the Scottish rain lashed down. The BBC series, the most popular TV drama ever made when it came out in the 1970s, cemented Reid's account of the Bad Boys' PoW camp: cheeky chaps with moustaches on stiff upper lips, digging their way to freedom, defying the doltish Germans, and winning the war by other means.

That myth, like all myths, was only partially true. Some prisoners were, like Reid, obsessively dedicated to escaping. But many were not. Beneath the surface of the legend lie multiple other aspects of the Colditz

story, which, like the slave labour camp, have not been properly explored because they did not fit the accepted template.

For Colditz was also a story of racial, political and class divisions, acute boredom, periodic bullying, treachery, despair and mental illness.



Pat Reid's gung-ho tale of escaping the POW camp came to define the Colditz story

While there were no female prisoners in Colditz, women played key roles in the story. There was homosexuality, studiously ignored by Reid and other chroniclers of the official history, but entirely predictable, quite widespread and conducted in secret. The pastor became thoroughly alarmed by what he called "homosexuality" in the camp; men dressed up as women for

theatrical performances and inevitably became objects of desire.

Colditz has always been told as a quintessentially British story, yet until the final part of the war the British were in the minority. Canadians were there before the first British prisoner arrived. There were Poles, Dutch, Belgians, Czechs, Australians, New Zealanders, Americans and others. The French had a better escape record than the British. At one point, appallingly, antisemitic French officers insisted that their Jewish compatriots be incarcerated separately, in an attic inevitably known as the ghetto.

The German guards frequently outnumbered the prisoners. Some were brutal Nazis, but most were not, and some were perfectly civilised: most notably Hauptmann Reinhold Eggers, who became the camp security chief, a former teacher and anglophile who had taught in Cheltenham before the war and could never quite understand why the British prisoners were consistently

rude to him when the good folk of Cheltenham had been so polite.

There is, then, another, darker, more complicated and nuanced side to the Colditz story, as in every episode of history that settles into legend. We see the past, inevitably, through the prism of the present. The history of empire was told to our ancestors as pure virtue; today we see it quite differently, exploring those stories through other lenses, seeking alternative meaning. For decades, people gazed on the statues of Cecil Rhodes and saw a titan of empire, not the racist exploiter many see today.

The facts of history do not change, but our interpretations, attitudes and interests constantly evolve. Future historians will see the events of today in a very different light. The history of Putin's war in Ukraine, the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the premiership of Boris Johnson, will be written and rewritten for many years hence and

Pat Reid's story, stirring and cheery, was really a moral fable

it will not be what we, or they, might expect; and with each generation it will change again.

The Colditz myth was rooted in a postwar Britain that wanted to believe in simple heroes and villains, needing to be reassured the sacrifice had been worth it. Reid's version, stirring and cheery, was really a moral fable. Today we are prepared to accept that humans are more complicated than that. There were some genuine heroes in Colditz; but there were many more people like you and me.

To be reminded of an earlier, simpler Colditz, in which a chap's main concern was how to get enough rope to scale off the chapel roof, I recommend the board game, created in 1973 and available from Amazon. (Tip: it's still best to be the Kommandant.)

**Colditz: Prisoners of the Castle**, by Ben Macintyre, is published by Viking on September 15

Magazine: The only Indian ever imprisoned in Colditz

## Comment

WEEKEND ESSAY

# Our new King has a balancing act but could be one of the greats

Elizabeth II kept the monarchy relevant and secured three generations of successors, while staying out of politics. Her son can build on that legacy in the knowledge the causes he holds dear are more fashionable than ever, writes **Anthony Seldon**

**O**nly this Monday, Boris Johnson was Britain's prime minister at the head of Her Majesty's Government. The week ends with Liz Truss at the head of His Majesty's Government. Not since Britain became a democracy in the 19th century has the country had this double churn.

Britain continues to perform a juggling act as a democracy and a monarchy. When Elizabeth succeeded her father, George VI, in February 1952 there were an estimated hundred monarchies in the world. Today, aside from the Commonwealth, there are only 28 countries that retain a monarch. Most of our European partners had lost theirs before she came to the throne, including France in 1870, Germany in 1918 and Italy in 1946. Some of those that retain them, such as Spain, have the skates under them. In others, including Belgium, Denmark and the Netherlands, the monarch figures less prominently among their own people and in the world than the British monarchy, and none head a commonwealth.

Further abroad, most remaining monarchies are to be found in Muslim countries and many, as in Saudi Arabia, are autocratic and intolerant of political diversity. Perhaps only Japan's monarchy mirrors the public respect and development into a constitutional model of our own, albeit with the terrible shadow of the Second World War and surviving only thanks to American goodwill during the subsequent occupation.

No other country in the world has managed so successfully to be a democracy and a monarchy at the same time. The transition from an absolute to constitutional monarchy is one of the great success stories of British history and it was the particular genius of Queen Elizabeth II that she helped the monarchy to survive meaningfully into the 21st century as neither irrelevant nor trespassing on the freedom of action of politicians who possess legitimate power. The monarchy's importance today may be inchoate but that very lack of definition may be precisely the reason for its survival.

It is difficult to imagine any of our late Queen's predecessors having that same ability to adapt. The woman who spoke so dutifully on her accession in 1952, and was so clearly awed to be the monarch to Winston Churchill as prime minister, was the same

person who played along with the James Bond joke during the Olympics in London in 2012, and the Paddington Bear tea party during the Platinum Jubilee this summer. Difficult to imagine Queen Victoria or George V willing to be so playful. Indeed, some counselled the Queen at the time that such gestures were frivolous and undignified. How wrong they were.

The Queen's journey had some painful moments when she lost touch with the pulse of the nation, never more so than exactly 25 years ago at the death of Princess Diana, when she initially remained up in Balmoral, refusing to come down to London. But she had the emotional intelligence, and it was her own decision, to read the nation and to speak the words that at once healed her hidden contract with her subjects.

That contract with the public lies at the heart of the survival and meaning of the modern monarchy. Instead of focusing on that bond, we are obsessed by the relationship between the Crown and the prime minister, and hear repeatedly, if not entirely accurately, that for example Harold Wilson was her favourite prime minister, and Margaret Thatcher the one with whom she sparred the most. We are fascinated by the television series *The Crown*, as it appears is much of the rest of the world. In reality, no one knows exactly what was said between Elizabeth and her 15 prime ministers, nor what her influence was.

Those prime ministers came to their weekly audience with her, a custom that began only with her father, George VI, to find wisdom and a still centre where they could speak to the only person they would ever encounter who wanted nothing from them.

The audience is a mixture of confession, a counselling or coaching session and a spiritual retreat. The life of the prime minister permits little time for quiet reflection, and those they surround themselves with have little institutional memory or historical perspective. She provided these dimensions in buckets.

Boris Johnson described her yesterday as the greatest statesman and diplomat of them all. She was both these. But it was not power: Queen Victoria was the last monarch to try to wield real political heft in a concerted way. By George V's reign, only vestiges of power remained. The late Queen's aides worked tirelessly to try to ensure that she was never drawn into the political arena, as that might have compromised her neutrality.



Line of succession: Prince Charles, the Queen, Prince George and Prince William

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A family person through and through, Elizabeth died knowing she had fulfilled a primary purpose as monarch

High points of her reign were the birth of children, none more so than in 1948 with her eldest son and heir, Charles, his son William in 1982 and George in 2013. We could see it in that deep, radiant smile lighting up her face. For her predecessors as monarch, not least Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, ensuring the continuity of their royal bloodline ranked at the top of their priorities. Now that lineage is assured into the 22nd century: king, king, king. George VII will be “only” 87 in 2100. A family person through and through, but also leader of the nation, Elizabeth died knowing she had fulfilled a primary purpose as monarch.

She also died knowing that of the two tendencies in the House of Windsor, to be a servant-leader and to be entitled, the former had won out in the succession. The latter has always threatened the popularity and continuation of the monarchy: Queen Victoria's eldest son's indulgent and lavish lifestyle as Prince of Wales; the self-pity and lack of principles of Edward VIII; the descent of the lost soul Princess Margaret. The Queen died knowing that Charles would rise fully to the challenge with his Queen Consort, Camilla, to whom she became fully reconciled, at his side.

Charles has had many detractors as Prince of Wales, not helped by the breakdown of his marriage to Princess Diana, who won the nation's heart as he was never able to do himself. But often he was a lightning conductor for those who disliked the idea of a hereditary monarch yet were reluctant to turn their ire on Queen Elizabeth herself.

As Charles has already shown as monarch, including the way he greeted the crowds yesterday afternoon outside Buckingham Palace, he understands that he must serve. The public loathe it when they believe the royal family are indulgent and entitled, enjoying the



photographed in 2016 to mark the Queen's 90th birthday. Left, Queen Elizabeth I died childless and was unable to provide an obvious heir

trappings and luxuries of their inheritance but without justifying them through their hard work. He will surely want to work as hard as Elizabeth and we may well be surprised by how, in the top spot at last, he grows into the job, not by imitating the style of his mother but by being authentically himself.

Elizabeth brought the monarchy into the 21st century. She aroused love and admiration across the nation without the trauma of a major war. George V in 1914-18 and George VI in 1939-45 transformed their relationships with their public, through their visits and concern for the wounded and bereaved. The closest to a national tragedy Elizabeth experienced in her reign was the Covid-19 epidemic, at the peak of which she gave one of her most triumphant addresses to the nation. Indicatively, her message "We will meet again" harked back to Vera Lynn and the Second World War.

King Charles III will need to look forward, into the middle of this century. The country knows what he believes and so he does not need to make public pronouncements, a real fear across the board, including from many who wish him well. It is an enormous boon that four of his most prominent public platforms have been on topics that appeal to the young and are in tune with the zeitgeist of the early 21st century.

His championing of the environment and the green agenda was roundly mocked by many, not least those who wanted to attack the man but not listen to his message. The left were outraged that an unelected figure could air his opinions, on architecture for example, while the right was scornful of his "woke" agenda, long before the word was in common usage.

His support for young people and volunteering through the Prince's Trust has been tireless and is

deeply in sympathy with the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme founded by his father. Charles's thinking about education is far ahead of policies produced by Labour and Conservative governments, and he anticipated many of the recommendations this year of *The Times Education Commission*, notably the need for challenge in the curriculum, the development of curiosity, character and personal skills, and the importance of outdoor activity.

**H**e is patron or president of more than 20 leading organisations, including the Royal Shakespeare Company. His recent performance on the stage at Stratford-upon-Avon at its annual general meeting shows he can be every bit as playful and mischievous as his mother. He is serious and learned about culture and loves deeply works produced by British artists.

His decision that, as king, he would be the defender of all faiths is timely and appropriate for the Britain the country has become since 1952. When the Pope made Henry VIII "defender of the faith" in 1521, England was Catholic; now it is a multi-faith country. The commitment he has shown to those who follow the Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, Hindu and Buddhist faiths, as well as Christianity, the faith of his mother, and his willingness to visit their places of worship, show him to be a monarch for our time.

In his range of reading, his interest in philosophy, history, the arts, science and technology, he has something about him of Prince Albert, the brilliant prince consort of Queen Victoria, who died in 1861.

He will need all his ingenuity and empathy, and our support across the nation, if he is to succeed in his task of becoming the monarch that the country needs, not

RANALD MACKENZIE/ROYAL MAIL; BEN STANSALL/AFP/GTET IMAGES



It is hard to imagine Queen Victoria having the playfulness Elizabeth II showed in the Bond and Paddington sketches

least at a time of such serious concerns at home and abroad. The male rulers who have been successful, including George III, have mostly been long-serving monarchs. Succeeding to the throne at the age of 73, with a long span ruled out, is not easy, any more than it is succeeding such a giant figure as his mother.

The survival of the monarchy in Britain is very far from guaranteed. Charles will do well if the United Kingdom is still intact at the end of his reign and the Commonwealth remains a vital force. At home, large numbers want to dispense altogether with the monarchy, which they consider an anachronism.

The difficulty in finding an acceptable alternative to the monarch as head of state must not be the only reason for continued support of the monarchy. Removing it would profoundly weaken our national identity and the nature of the country, and open it up to the instabilities of those nations that have opted for elected heads of state. The current polarisation in the United States and the challenge to democracy from President Trump, with his questioning of the legitimacy of the election process, is a reminder of the value of an impartial monarch.

Harriet Harman was absolutely right yesterday in saying that the Queen succeeded in never crossing the line into the political sphere, and thus underpinned democracy. It is indeed ironic that a vital and flourishing democracy, as in Britain, might need the apparent anachronism of a hereditary head of state to help ensure its continued vitality.

The accession of King Charles III reminds us that his two predecessors of the same name ruled in a century which saw the monarchy rubbed out. Charles I's was an unhappy reign. It started well, with a secure succession, and Charles was able to indulge his passion for art, amassing one of the finest collections in English history. But disputes with parliament over religion, political powers and taxes culminated in the civil wars of the 1640s that tore the three kingdoms apart. In 1649, Charles was charged with treason and executed by beheading in Whitehall.

His son, Charles II, began too as a popular monarch, replacing the gloomy severity of Cromwell's republic with a riotous Restoration and a glittering court. Well might the Vicar of Bray sing of "Good King Charles's golden days". He showed courage directing the firefighting during the Great Fire of London in 1666. He established the Royal Hospital in Chelsea for army veterans and the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, and he cared deeply about the many scientific developments of his reign. Charles was also licentious, and had at least a dozen illegitimate children, by various mistresses. However, he left no legitimate children and therefore, upon his death in 1685, the throne passed to his brother James II, who lasted just three years before being swept from power.

Charles III's historic role will be to cement the legacy of his mother and to prepare the ground for the popular and contemporary William V. Succeed in that, and he will go down in history as one of our great kings.

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Charles's championing of the environment and the green agenda was once roundly mocked by many

Sir Anthony Seldon is an educationalist and historian



Cutbacks The 8ft-high maze at Stockeld Park near Wetherby, West Yorkshire, receives a trim. At the centre is a revolving globe that was designed by a local schoolgirl

# Targeted ear piercing could help ease pain of migraine sufferers

Kat Lay Health Editor

A simple ear piercing could offer relief for sufferers of debilitating migraines by stimulating a crucial nerve in the head, doctors believe.

A trial hopes to show that piercing the daith, the innermost cartilage fold, is effective enough to be offered by GPs.

A migraine is usually a severe headache felt as a throbbing pain on one side of the head, often accompanied by nausea, vomiting and increased sensitivity to light or sound. About one in five women and one in fifteen men in the UK suffer the attacks, usually beginning in early adulthood. The condition results in three million sick days a year.

People susceptible to migraines who had a daith piercing because they liked how it looked have been reporting its positive effect on their health for several years. Doctors believe that it stimulates the vagus nerve behind the ear. Electrical stimulation of the nerve has been shown to help severe headaches.

Dr Chris Blatchley, who runs the London Migraine Clinic, said he was "very sceptical" when he first saw reports of the benefits of piercings. "But when I investigated the data behind an amateur online survey of around 300 people with a daith for their migraines, I was able to drill down into the data and saw patterns of response that were not obviously linked," he said. "My previous thoughts that it could all be pure



## Case study

**J**an Howells, 54, from south Wales, had been plagued by migraines and severe headaches since the age of 11 (Kat Lay writes). She twice needed hospital treatment and was prescribed triptans, a class of painkiller, to try to relieve symptoms. Flare-ups this year had left her desperate, she said, and she had a medical daith piercing four months ago. The effects, she

said, were extraordinary. She went to Blue Banana in Cardiff. It was uncomfortable, she said. "There is quite an audible sort of gentle pop sound, like a rice crispy, as it goes through." She noticed a "looser" feeling in her head straight away. She said that after several days without migraines or headaches: "I started trying to persuade myself that in fact, it hadn't worked and it was just a coincidence. "So I shovelled down a lovely cheesy meal, knowing that

that was one of my triggers. And nothing happened at all." She has been "doing all the wrong things trying to prove actually that it was a load of rubbish and hadn't worked. But it has." Before the piercing Howells would have a "debilitating" migraine two or three times a month, and headaches more frequently still.

Now, she said, she was able to eat what she wanted and to try coffee for the first time. "I can go about not worrying," she said. "It's liberating."

thetically doesn't serve its purpose medically," he said. Piercers use a meter to find the position of the nerve behind the skin before marking the spot. The piercing is not deep enough to touch the nerve but close enough to stimulate it.

Blatchley said: "Many of our patients have had severe migraines for years and had already failed on other medical treatments. Although a medical daith does not work for everyone, our experience suggests that it may be more effective than the routine drugs from GPs."

A larger trial aims to follow a large number of sufferers for at least a year to measure the response over time.

Questions are likely to remain over how much of the findings can be explained by the placebo effect.

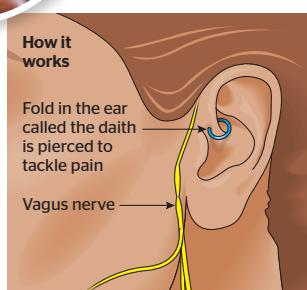
Blatchley hopes it will increase understanding of the benefits. He added: "Potentially, it could join standard treatments already used by GPs."

In the past two years new treatments have been approved on the NHS, taken as monthly injections to prevent migraines and relieve symptoms.

"Patients have been asking about daith [piercings] for migraines for several years. So far there has been no medical research, so I will be interested to learn what the research shows," said Dr Anna Andreou, director of headache research at Guy's and St Thomas' and King's College hospitals.

Fayyaz Ahmed, consultant neurologist and professor at Hull York Medical School and a former trustee of Migraine Trust, added: "Any treatment that could ease their symptoms and disability will add to the existing options.

The more options we have, the better we can ease the sufferings of this highly prevalent headache disorder."



## Quintagram® No 1417

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1 Gambling card game (5)

2 Rankle, jar (5)

3 Deliberately sink (a ship) (7)

4 Yells, roars (7)

5 Test cricket series (3,5)

A	A	B	C	E	E	E	E
E	E	G	H	H	K	L	L
L	O	O	P	R	R	S	S
S	S	T	T	T	T	U	W

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## Man admits killing four

A 28-year-old man has admitted fatally stabbing four members of one family but denied murder. Joshua Jacques pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey yesterday to the manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility of Dolet Hill, 64, her partner Denton Burke, 58, daughter Tanya Ofori-Akuffo, 45, and granddaughter Samantha Drummonds, 27, in Bermondsey, London, in April. The prosecution indicated the pleas would not be accepted and a trial will be set.

## Bones slowed evolution

The first four-legged animals had fewer skull bones than fish, which slowed their evolution, a study claims. Analysis of fossils across the transition from an aquatic to terrestrial environment is published in *Science Advances*. Professor Emily Rayfield, of the University of Bristol, said: "Changes to the skull seemed to limit tetrapod evolution."

## 'Dead' baby court win

The parents of a baby who tried to breathe after being declared dead have won the latest stage in a fight to keep him on life support. The Court of Appeal has ordered a new hearing, overturning a ruling that doctors at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust in London could turn off his ventilator. The child, now five months old, had a severe brain injury.

## Origins of extinction

The worst mass extinctions were caused by a slowing of the continental plates, research has suggested. It led to magma, or molten volcanic rock, penetrating the Earth's crust, causing violent eruptions hundreds of millions of years ago. The study published in *Science Advances* examined chemical data from ancient mudstone deposits in Wales.

## Hip fractures to soar

Hip fractures will nearly double worldwide within 30 years as the population ages and grows frailer, a study has predicted. Presenting his findings at a scientific meeting in Texas, Dr Ching-Lung Cheung, of Hong Kong University, said that cases were forecast to rise in 18 of the 19 countries analysed, especially among men aged over 85. He advised preventive action.

# Indian prisoner's escape from Colditz

Plans by Birendranath Mazumdar to flee were derided by white soldiers, write Jack Malvern and Ben Macintyre

In some respects the freshly told story of a Colditz prisoner escaping to freedom has familiar moments of daring.

The British officer leapt from a moving train, forced open windows and crawled through barbed wire fences before making a 560-mile journey through enemy territory.

In other respects Birendranath Mazumdar's story, told in full for the first time in today's *Times Magazine*, is unique.

He was an Indian-born doctor whose appearance not only made him stand out in wartime France but led him to be ostracised by his fellow British officers at the high-security prison camp at Colditz.

Mazumdar, who died in 1996, was the only Indian at Colditz, the imposing castle used by Nazi Germany to house prisoners it considered troublesome or an escape risk. Referred to by fellow British officers as "Jumbo", a nickname he disliked, he was offered no help in his wish to escape. British officers treated his request with derision. "You? Escaping from here? With your brown skin?"

Mazumdar was against British rule in India but was loyal to the country he swore an oath of allegiance to defend when joining the British army. He rejected repeated Nazi attempts to persuade him to join their cause and fight against the British in Burma.

Excluded from British escape attempts, he began a hunger strike to demand that he be transferred to an all-Indian prison camp, where he knew security would be laxer.

The Germans conceded on his 16th day that he would follow through with his threat and agreed to a transfer.

The other inmates, seeing his bravery, overcame their prejudices and cheered him as he emerged into the prison courtyard. The escape committee presented him with German bank notes hidden in a special container designed to be concealed in the rectum — a valuable piece of equipment known as an "arse-creeper".

Mazumdar wasted no time in his escape. As a train took him and other In-



**Birendranath**  
Mazumdar was ostracised by British officers at Colditz prison camp, but his widow, Joan, said he had never felt like an outsider in Britain



to persuade him to fight against the British, he had been introduced to Subhas Chandra Bose, an Indian nationalist who sided with the Nazis. MI5 opened a file on Mazumdar and he was questioned on his return to Britain in 1944, where an officer concluded: "It seems impossible that [Mazumdar] has forgotten as much as he pretends."

Despite the suspicion and his experience as an outsider, he remained in Britain till his death. In 1950, he married Joan Williams, a bank cashier and later a GP, and settled in Devon. "Biren never thought of himself as British, but he never felt like an outsider here, as he did inside Colditz," his widow, 96, said.

She was thankful that his story was being told by the Times writer Ben Macintyre in his forthcoming book *Colditz: Prisoners of the Castle*, based on Mazumdar's account in

a tape recording held by the Imperial War Museum and in declassified MI5 files. "It is so very good for other people who are Indian," she said.

"Biren was my life, in a sense. We got married on the first day of spring — April 21, 1953 — because I wanted to see our life go straight from spring to autumn to winter."

**Colditz was far more complex than its myth, Ben Macintyre, Page 31 Magazine: The only Indian ever imprisoned in Colditz**

dian prisoners to western France in February 1943, he forced the carriage window and leapt out. He hiked for more than 150 miles towards the Pyrenees but was arrested near Toulouse.

By June 1943, he was in a camp at Chartres in central France, where he and a prisoner named Dario Singh planned a further escape. Singh bored through a wall 2ft thick before they

forced open a window sealed shut with sheets of tin.

Over three hours they crawled across 500 yards of open ground, watched by sentries armed with machineguns and periodically lit by searchlights, and cut through three barbed wire fences before scaling an 18ft gate.

They then began a journey to neutral territory over the Swiss border, know-

ing that their appearance would instantly make them suspicious to German forces and their collaborators. Travelling at night and crossing three rivers, it took them six weeks to cross the border with the help of French civilians. Even after they crossed the border on July 13, Mazumdar's troubles were not over.

During one of the German attempts

## McEwan's youthful mescaline habit

David Sanderson Arts Correspondent

Ian McEwan has confessed to having followed in the footsteps of Hunter S Thompson and Aldous Huxley.

The bestselling novelist has revealed that in the 1970s he would "meticulously" plan psychedelic experiences with friends.

McEwan, who has won multiple awards for his works, says in an interview in today's *Times* that once a year or every two years he would take mescaline with friends. "I would be with close friends and there would be meticulous planning: where and when we would come down, and always in unbelievably beautiful places — high mountain meadows, rivers to swim in, camps, log fires to sit around, great food ready," he said.

McEwan joins a rich cast of writers who have



Ian McEwan would take mescaline only once a year

dabbled in hallucinogenic substances. Huxley's seminal 1954 book *The Doors of Perception* described his experiences with mescaline. Other writers, including Thompson and Carlos Castaneda, have also documented their experiences with the drug, which is derived from a cactus.

The novelist Ann Patchett has documented in an essay a psilocybin trip she took with a friend who was suffering from pancreatic cancer after reading a medical article advocating its use.

There is growing medical evidence that psychedelic substances can reduce anxiety in patients who are terminally ill.

Studies have indicated that psilocybin, the psychedelic compound produced by scores of fungi species, reduces anxiety in what is

known as the default mode network, or "corporate executive" of the brain. This area is thought to keep a kind of order and was likened in Merlin Sheldrake's *Entangled Life* to a "schoolteacher in a chaotic classroom".

McEwan, 74, said he would usually take mescaline "far away, even in northwest America", adding that its potency demanded caution from the user. "We did it once in a year or once in two years," he said. "It was too big, too grand, to ever incorporate into daily life. We'd think, 'Well, phew' and think about it for 18 months."

The author, who won the Somerset Maugham Award in 1976 for his first collection of short stories and who has continued to win prizes, including the Booker for his novel *Amsterdam* in 1998, said further psychedelic experiences might have to wait.

"I think when I'm 98 that might be the time," he said.

'I've said as much as I know for now', Saturday Review, pages 4-5

increased substantially" whenever the son visited his mother in Israel. Feld says his mother authorised everything.

Adam Gersch, for the prosecution, said that Feld had "purchased a brand-new Porsche" and it was unlikely that the widow or her husband would have allowed it. "Following the trauma they experienced during the Second World War, they would never purchase a German product," he said. Hannah Feld's family had fled Czechoslovakia.

James Fletcher, for the defence, said that the love between the mother and son "was very strong. Jonathan was always part of the care and wellbeing of his mother".

The jury has retired to consider verdicts. Feld, from Kilburn, northwest London, was cleared at the judge's direction of a further charge of stealing £1.3 million from a bank account held jointly in his and his mother's names.

**Jewish refugee's son denies fleecing her to buy Porsche**

Jonathan Ames Legal Editor

A Jewish widow allegedly defrauded out of £270,000 by her son would never have let him buy a Porsche because of the trauma she experienced during the Second World War, a court was told.

Hannah Feld's son, Jonathan, 62, is accused of withdrawing cash from bank machines and using her credit cards to fund shopping sprees between 2014 and 2018 that included buying a new car.

She had retired to Tel Aviv with her late husband in 1988 and was said to be suffering from "significant cognitive decline" at the time of the alleged thefts, Southwark crown court was told.

Jonathan Feld, a therapist, denies stealing almost £270,000 from her account, in a private prosecution brought by Louise Radley, his sister.

The prosecution has alleged that cash withdrawals from bank machines

## News



# Illegally strong vapes for sale in US-themed 'candy stores'

**Eleanor Hayward**  
Health Correspondent

Opened by Sir Edward Elgar in 1921, the building at 363 Oxford Street served as HMV's flagship record shop for nearly a century.

Now, the famous storefront is emblazoned with a new name — Candy World — and the dog and gramophone have been replaced by the Statue of Liberty holding a lollipop.

Alongside M&Ms, gobstoppers and candyfloss, however, the shop also proudly displays hundreds of e-cigarettes in sickly-sweet flavours such as bubblegum, watermelon and sour apple.

Some of these vapes are illegal. They have been shipped in from California and contain 5 per cent nicotine. The UK legal limit is 2 per cent.

The fate of the former HMV store is perhaps the starkest example of how American-themed candy stores are taking over British high streets. Of the ten on Oxford Street, seven have entire sections or walls dedicated to vapes.

The shops have become a haven for the booming e-cigarette industry, which stands accused of "cynically" targeting children with brightly-coloured

disposable vapes. Experts say the proliferation of e-cigarettes in sweet shops is fuelling an epidemic of underage vaping that risks leaving "generations of children addicted to nicotine".

Although it is illegal to sell e-cigarettes to under-18s, NHS figures published this week revealed that one in ten secondary school children used them. The majority said they bought their vapes directly from shops, some of which also sell imported super-strength illegal products. Only 3 per cent of pupils said they frequently or occasionally used cigarettes.

Vapes heat a flavoured liquid, allowing users to inhale nicotine as a vapour rather than smoke. They are significantly less harmful than traditional cigarettes and recommended by the NHS as a tool for quitting tobacco. However, there are concerns over their long-term health effects, and particularly their use among children.

Trading standards staff face a "constant struggle" to keep up with the influx of illicit products, which has increased in recent months after the US tightened regulations.

Dr Mike McKean, from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, said that some vapes lure



Illegal super-strength vapes are sold on the former HMV site. Other shops, above left, offer brightly coloured legal items



Vapes on sale in Oxford Street. Two contained illegal levels of nicotine

youngsters with "bright packaging, exotic flavours and enticing names". Some have packaging modelled on sweet brands, coming in flavours such as Fanta and Skittles.

"Nowadays there is a vape shop on almost every high street," McKean said. "These companies are simply interested in 'hooking' children and young people to make a profit off them — there is absolutely no thought or care about their health and wellbeing."

Deborah Arnott, chief executive of the charity Action on Smoking and Health, said: "It's totally unacceptable that vapes are being promoted in shops alongside sweets, with sweet names,

and looking like sweets. It's the Wild West out there and it's not just Oxford Street, it's happening up and down the country. Many of the products don't meet UK standards, and if people are selling illegal products they're unlikely to have any scruples about selling to children."

"Funding for more enforcement is needed and retailers should be legally required to have an age-verification policy in place to ensure anyone who looks under 25 is asked for proof of age, as they are in Scotland."

Arnott called for urgent government action on e-cigarettes, including laws that would require them to be sold only in plain packaging.

Westminster city council, which is responsible for Oxford Street, is attempting to clamp down on the illegal vapes being sold in the area. In June, officials raided three of the American candy stores, seizing 2,838 illicit disposable e-cigarettes. Adam Hug, a councillor, said: "Our trading standards officers are taking thousands of illegal vapes off the streets but it remains a constant struggle. The Times investigation underlines the fear that some unscrupulous traders are cynically peddling vapes to children or under-18s."

"Some of the vape products we have seen are many times the permitted strength and this will have knock-on health implications for years to come."

"We will continue to protect consumers in Westminster wherever we find unsafe and illegal products being sold. And again, I would appeal to the ultimate owners of prestige sites along Oxford Street to think very carefully about the kinds of shops they are allowing to operate from their premises."

The council has raised the alarm over the proliferation of US-themed sweet and souvenir shops on Oxford Street since the pandemic. It suspects some are not legitimate businesses but rather fronts to commit business rate fraud and, in some cases, sell illegal goods. Council staff are investigating 30 shops on Oxford Street for business rates evasion amounting to £7.9 million.

The UK Vaping Industry Association said it was calling for tighter regulation to prevent the sale of vapes to children. This includes guidelines for "packaging, labelling and flavour names to ensure product branding in no way appeals to under-18s" and £10,000 fines for those selling illegal products.

Candy World did not respond to a request for comment.

## Bonfire Night peters out as councils cut back on firework displays

**Andrew Ellson**

Children in many parts of the country might soon struggle to "remember, remember the Fifth of November" as fireworks events are cancelled with organisers blaming rising costs, new regulations and even air pollution.

Firework celebrations have been shelved in London, Dundee, Cardiff and Liverpool while councils in other major cities have yet to confirm if their annual events will go ahead this year.

Bonfire Night is held to commemorate the foiling of Guy Fawkes' plot to bomb parliament in 1605 and has been taken place across the country for centuries. In Hackney, east London, the local council blamed rising costs and

the air quality implications for its decision to cancel. It said that the annual display cost about £125,000 to run and that last time only £72,000 was recouped in ticket sales and catering.

The local authority was spending an estimated £250,000 on the Hackney Carnival, which "celebrates the cultural traditions of Bolivia, Brazil, the Caribbean, China, Gambia, Ghana, the Philippines, Senegal, Vietnam and the UK" although the event, due to take place this weekend, has been postponed because of the Queen's death.

Asked to elaborate on the air pollution risk of fireworks, the council pointed to the website of the charity Environmental Protection UK, which says fireworks emit "light, heat and sound

energy along with carbon dioxide and other gases and residues". It adds: "The exact emissions will depend on the firework, but as gunpowder is a main component, sulphur compounds are emitted, along with small amounts of particulates, metal oxides and organic compounds, which can include minute amounts of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, dioxins and furans."

The website explains there is often "a noticeable increase in pollution from particulates and dioxins" around Bonfire Night although "most of this is believed to come from bonfires rather than fireworks". The Hackney display does not include a bonfire.

Elsewhere, Dundee city council recently voted to cancel its fireworks dis-

plays, citing the risk of terrorism. Councillors supported a report by emergency services, which said two venues for its free events were no longer suitable for crowds of tens of thousands.

The review was commissioned due to imminent "protect duty" legislation, which will require event organisers to prepare risk assessments and escape routes in the event of an emergency.

Meanwhile, in Cardiff, the annual Sparks in the Park show has been cancelled "for the foreseeable future" because of the "escalating cost and organisational burden" of running the largest fireworks display in Wales.

The event's organisers, Cardiff Round Table, said: "As a purely volunteer-driven event, where all profits

raised are donated to local charities and good causes, it is no longer feasible for us to put on an event of this scale."

Liverpool and Lewisham councils will not be reviving their fireworks events this year after stopping them for Covid-19. Lewisham council, which previously ran a night on Blackheath attended by about 100,000 people, said that instead it planned to hold a "Festival of Light" as part of the mayor's London borough of culture.

The dearth of major displays follows the cancellation of events over the past two years during the pandemic.

The Local Government Association said: "Decisions to cancel any events are taken by individual councils based on their unique local circumstances."

# Man arrested over 1996 IRA bombing

**Tom Ball** Northern Correspondent

The police have arrested a man in connection with the IRA's 1996 bombing of Manchester city centre, the first arrest to be made on suspicion of terrorism offences since the attack.

Greater Manchester police said a man was stopped at Birmingham airport on Thursday night as he entered the country. He will be interviewed by officers from Counter Terrorism Policing for the North West (CTPNW).

The 3,300lb lorry bomb was the largest explosive to be detonated on mainland Britain since the Second World War. It caused more than £1 billion of

damage along Corporation Street, one of the city's main thoroughfares.

The IRA telephoned warnings about 90 minutes before the bomb was detonated, triggering the evacuation of at least 75,000 people. No one was killed but 212 people suffered injuries.

In 2006 Greater Manchester police said it was unlikely anyone would be tried for planting the bomb because of a lack of evidence. The investigation was reopened in 2016 and last year police announced that a review of evidence had produced "new, albeit limited, investigative opportunities".

Detective Superintendent Andrew Meeks, head of investigations at

CTPNW, said a team of officers had been re-examining the original case files and pursuing new lines of inquiry.

"We have always been committed to holding those responsible for the attack to account and bringing them to justice and have been reinvestigating for several years," Meeks said.

"Following the arrest, we have contacted individuals who were victims of this horrific attack to ensure that they're updated, as we know for many people this will bring back memories of that terrible day and we are doing all we can to support our communities and those who were affected."

"We remain determined to hold

those responsible for this attack to account regardless of the time passed and would still encourage anyone who has any information that could assist our inquiries to get in touch via the major incident portal."

The suspect's arrival in Birmingham is believed to be the first time he had entered the UK in several years.

Two men had previously been arrested, accused of leaking police files to the *Manchester Evening News*. Detective Chief Inspector Gordon Mutch was accused of leaking special branch documents naming those suspected of the bombing to the press and went on trial in 2002. He was acquitted. Steve Panter,

crime correspondent of the *Manchester Evening News*, was arrested on suspicion of aiding and abetting wilful misconduct in a public office, but never charged.

The leaked information claimed that special branch officers had monitored an alleged offender for many months after the blast but he was never detained or arrested.

The attack was similar to the IRA's bombing of London Docklands four months earlier when a lorry bomb of about 3,000lb was detonated in South Quay near Canary Wharf. A 90-minute warning was sent but the area was not evacuated in time and two people died.

## Woman 'deliberately run over several times'

**Kieran Gair**

A part-time photographer and model has been killed after she was "deliberately" run over "multiple times" in a hit and run outside her home.

Police began a murder investigation after Caragh Eaton, 28, was left for dead yards from her front door in Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire, on Tuesday afternoon.

Neighbours alleged that Eaton, who had a young son, was run over several times. One said: "She's been hit once and he's gone back again to drive over her two or three more times. It's just horrific."



Caragh Eaton, a model, had a young son

Caragh Eaton. She founded this group alongside myself with a hope of bringing the car community together. Such a lovely, kind lady that I am sure will leave a hole in the hearts of those she touched."

David Carpenter added: "She was just such a gentle and kind soul. This is so tragic, my thoughts go out to her family. I just can't believe it."

Isobel Chloe wrote on Facebook: "It's been a pleasure to be your neighbour for three years. I will miss putting the estate and our worlds to rights. You never deserved this."

Christi Louise Faulkner said: "You were there for me when I needed someone to talk to and cry on and I was the one who shook you and told you to fix up and be the best you could be to prove everyone wrong and we both stood and burst into tears. I'm going to miss our late-night phone calls talking and laughing."

Leicestershire police appealed for further information. Mark Parish, from the East Midlands Special Operations Unit, the senior investigating officer, said: "A team of detectives are working around the clock to piece together the events of, and leading up to, Caragh's death."

"Anyone in the community who hasn't yet spoken to police and who may have information, please contact us. There are officers in the area carrying out inquiries: approach them, or send information online. Dashcam footage or doorbell footage may provide us with some vital information. Please look and contact us."

Police added that Eaton's family had requested to be left alone at this time, to grieve in private.

Leicestershire police found an abandoned black Land Rover believed to have been used in the attack. Officers arrested a 42-year-old man on suspicion of murder after receiving information. He was taken into custody for questioning. The force has not said whether the suspect was known to the victim.

Emergency services arrived outside the house at 4.45pm but Eaton was pronounced dead a short time later.

Tributes poured in for the model and photographer who had recently set up a Facebook page for car enthusiasts.

Kate Malin, of the group Modified Mania UK, said: "We are shocked and saddened to hear about the news of

## Baby-killer mother spared jail

**James Beal** Social Affairs Editor

A mother who shook her ten-week-old daughter to death was told she could look forward to her future yesterday as she was spared a jail sentence.

Lauren Saint George, 25, inflicted traumatic head injuries and 18 rib fractures on Lily Mai six days after she was discharged from hospital in January 2018. The mother attacked her baby in a fit of rage hours after she was told by

a social worker she would have to go into a residential unit with her daughter if she wanted to keep her. Staff at Barnet Hospital, in north London, felt that she hardly cared about the baby.

Saint George, of Enfield, north London, was convicted of infanticide, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison, in July, but cleared by an Old Bailey jury of murder.

At Wood Green crown court in north London yesterday, Mr Justice Spencer heard how she wished to pursue further education. He sentenced her to two years in prison, suspended for two years, along with a 12-month supervision order and 60 days' rehabilitation requirement.

He told her: "You now have a future to look forward to."



Lauren Saint George, 25, was cleared of murder but convicted of infanticide



**Buona fortuna** The actress Monica Bellucci at the Venice Film Festival yesterday, where her new film *Siccità* (Drought), an apocalyptic drama, had its premiere

## Police to be investigated on shooting

**David Woode** Crime Correspondent

The police watchdog has said that its inquiry into the shooting dead of a rapper by armed police in south London is now a homicide investigation.

Hundreds of people are expected to protest outside Scotland Yard today as officials face mounting pressure to explain why Chris Kaba, 24, who was due to become a father, was killed in Streatham Hill on Monday night.

Armed officers fired a single shot at the Audi in which he was travelling, which was not registered to him. The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) later confirmed that Kaba, who performed under the name Madix, was unarmed. Police in an armed response vehicle made "tactical contact" with Kaba's car after an automatic number plate recognition camera indicated that it was linked to a recent firearms incident, the IOPC said.

Posts on social media detailed the march from Parliament Square to the Metropolitan Police headquarters to "demand justice now". Jefferson Bosela, 27, Kaba's cousin, said on Instagram: "We're taking it straight to their doorstep."

Dozens of protesters, led by women from the Democratic Republic of Congo, gathered outside Brixton police station yesterday. Officers were heckled as they entered through a side door. One woman shouted: "Why are you eating when someone is dead? You have time for food but no time to give us answers."

More than 30 people chanted "We want justice for Chris" while some held banners that read "Justice for Chris Kaba". Esther Sifa Makizembe, 43, a carer from east London, said: "He could have been one of our sons. He had his life in front of him and to be gunned down ... Why did they shoot him?"

Tanto Mwanzo, 45, from Clapham, southwest London, said she learnt about Kaba's death through Congolese networks on social media. "This shooting proves that our children are not safe," she said. "Chris did not have [a weapon] but the police killed him and we need to know why."

Mwanzo said that another rally would be held outside the police station from Ilam today.

The IOPC said: "Our investigation team is continuing to gather and review a large amount of evidence. However, as this is now a criminal investigation, we are limited in what further information we can provide. The launch of a criminal investigation does not mean that criminal charges will necessarily follow. We have notified Mr Kaba's family of this latest development."

## News

# Protesters ready to rise again after Truss lifts ban on fracking

Campaigners are organising another fighting fund to take on Liz Truss after she gave the go-ahead for fracking.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) forced the government in 2019 to ditch its plans to extract gas and oil from shale rock.

Truss lifted the ban on Thursday, insisting that fracking was part of her wider strategy to reduce bills and secure the country's energy. Kwasi Kwarteng, the chancellor, has already explained, however, that fracking will not solve the crisis.

Tom Fyans, policy director at the CPRE, a registered charity, criticised

Truss's first announcement as prime minister to reverse the moratorium.

"Despite all we knew about fracking — its devastating impact on the climate, its toxic effects on local communities and its total inability to bring down energy bills — the government has gone full steam ahead back into the stone age," Fyans said.

The campaign charity said in a message to its members: "The good news? We've defeated fracking before."

"Together, we joined forces across the country to form one of the most formidable anti-fossil fuel movements the UK has ever seen. And together we

can do it again. But we need to mobilise and we need to do so quickly."

"From getting the word out to MPs to pushing the press coverage, we've got lots of plans already. But we need your help to get this campaign up and running. Can you help us by making a donation today?"

The group explained that in March Kwarteng dismissed fracking as a cure for the country's energy problems. The chancellor said the technique, in which water, chemicals and sand are injected at high pressure into cracks in the earth's surface, would take years to extract sufficient volumes of oil and gas.

Kwarteng added that it would "come at a high cost for communities and our precious countryside".

The CPRE said: "Kwarteng commissioned a review on fracking that, conveniently, the government has not published. All the evidence is stacked against the government but Liz Truss appears to be covering her ears."

"Worse still, the government is considering discounts to local people near fracking sites in what can only be called a feeble attempt to bribe vulnerable rural communities to accept an unpopular, unsafe and polluting process that will destroy their tranquillity. We know

the answers to the energy and cost of living crisis — insulation, emergency support to vulnerable households and a rapid rollout of clean energy."

"We can't let the government plunge us backwards again."

The grassroots group, which was established in 1926 by Sir Patrick Abercrombie, said that an emergency debate in parliament was expected "in the next few days".

The campaigners called on their 60,000 members and supporters in more than 100 local groups to help them protect the "beautiful countryside for everyone to value and enjoy".

## Bid to stop gangs using loophole in Rwanda plan

**Matt Dathan** Home Affairs Editor

The Home Office has drawn up plans to stop Albanian gangs exploiting a loophole in order to prevent migrants being deported to Rwanda.

At present only those who claim asylum in the UK are eligible for removal under the terms of the agreement with the African nation. That applies to most migrants who cross the Channel, with 97 per cent of the 12,668 who came via that route in the first six months of the year claiming asylum on arrival.

However, sources said Home Office officials had recorded an increasing number of migrants not claiming asylum. This coincides with a sharp increase in the number of Albanians coming to the UK, with more than 4,000 estimated to have arrived since June, compared with just over 2,000 in the first six months of the year.

A Border Force source said intelligence suggested that Albanian organised crime groups were advising migrants not to claim asylum to avoid being eligible for deportation under the terms of the Rwanda deal.

Some who do not claim asylum say they are victims of modern slavery, which gives them temporary protection. Others attempt to abscond from the authorities to escape being officially recorded.

It is understood there are fears among the security services that a growing number of Albanian criminals are being smuggled into the UK to work for organised crime groups or on the black market without claiming asylum.

Now, as part of the judicial review of the Rwanda policy at the High Court, documents disclosed by the Home Office have revealed that contingency plans exist to extend the criteria for those eligible for deportation.

Stating that "the vast majority of persons who arrive in the UK from safe third countries by dangerous means do not claim asylum", the Home Office said: "If the behaviour ... were to change such that individuals did not claim asylum but just made other claims, the UK would consider whether to broaden the scope of who may be removed to Rwanda."

A government statement, issued before the Queen's death, said: "Our world-leading partnership with Rwanda is a key part of our plans to fix the broken asylum system."

"We expected legal challenges to this plan but remain committed to delivering the policy as soon as possible, so we can break the business model of people-smugglers and prevent further loss of life in the Channel."



**Fetching scene** A couple of dogs were taken for their early morning exercise on a stormy Tynemouth Longsands beach in North Tyneside yesterday. Weather, page 69

# Spike in sex misconduct claims at law firms after gag order warning

**Jonathan Ames** Legal Editor

Complaints about sexual misconduct at law firms have risen more than eight-fold since a watchdog warning four years ago against the use of non-disclosure agreements.

Since 2018, 251 reports alleging sexual harassment or assaults by lawyers have been registered with the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA).

In the previous five years the regulator received only 30 complaints of sexual misconduct. Yet in a recently published statement officials said they were investigating 117 cases of alleged sexual misconduct.

In its latest guidance the watchdog highlighted the extent to which solicitors' regulatory obligations should stretch into their private lives. That issue came to the fore three years ago in the case of Ryan Beckwith, who was a

partner at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, one of the "magic circle" law firms in the City.

Beckwith, nicknamed Del Boy for his taste for pina coladas, had been fined £35,000 by a disciplinary tribunal for having drunken sex with a junior colleague.

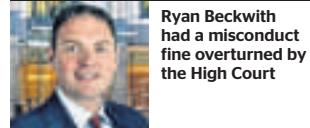
But in 2020 he had the fine overturned, and a £200,000 costs order, after the High Court ruled that professional rules could reach into a person's private life only when it touched on their "practice of the profession ... or the standing of the profession".

In its updated guidance the regulator has told solicitors that alleged misconduct will be assessed case by case, adding that "any attempt to formulate a list of what is prohibited and what is permitted detached from the circumstances of a specific case was neither necessary nor desirable".

The watchdog's warning in 2018

prompted a rash of allegations of sexual misconduct at law firms, with MPs on the women and equalities committee being told that an aggressive, alcohol-fuelled working culture was behind the behaviour.

One of the most notable claims in-



Ryan Beckwith  
had a misconduct  
fine overturned by  
the High Court

volved allegations concerning Gary Senior, then head of the London office of the US law firm Baker McKenzie. A woman alleged that he sexually assaulted her and she was pressured into signing a non-disclosure agreement before accepting a payout. A tribunal

found him guilty of professional misconduct and fined him £55,000.

In response the profession's watchdog, which oversees 140,000 practising solicitors in England and Wales, issued a warning against gagging agreements. It also insisted that firms report allegations of harassment or potential assault.

Iain Miller, a partner at Kingsley Napley, said firms were more inclined to report incidents than they were before 2018. "Law firms are very aware of risk management and after the SRA warning they have realised that it pays to report," he said.

Paul Philip the SRA chief executive, said: "We take reports of sexual misconduct seriously. We want to be clear about our expectations, not least for firms, as people often come to us because they are dissatisfied with the way their firm has dealt with their concerns."

BENJAMIN CREMEL FOR THE TIMES

# Jobs Jr refuses to give ringing endorsement for new iPhone

**Mark SELLMAN**  
Technology Correspondent

Not long after the world's media had assembled in the Steve Jobs Theater at Apple's California HQ for the launch of the new iPhone, the daughter of the company's founder posted a picture that summed up the thoughts of some observers: is that it?

The photograph, next to the caption "me upgrading my iPhone from 13 to 14", was of a man showing off a new shirt he had just been given — and it was exactly the same as the one he was wearing. The message from Eve Jobs, 24, an equestrian and model, was clear — not much has really changed from the iPhone 13 to 14, has it?

Apple unveiled its new smartphone this week with the usual flair, a sleek, heavily produced film co-presented by Tim Cook, the CEO, and other senior executives. The 14's new features included a faster chip, better camera; an always-on display, a redesigned screen, connection to a satellite if you need to send an emergency SOS and the end of the physical SIM card.

But many of these were packed into the more expensive Pro version and in the cold light of day the basic 13 and 14 phones had the same chip, screen size, storage and cameras.

Samsung, Apple's main rival and the market leader in phone sales, was also quick to mock its competitor ahead of the launch.

The South Korean company released a spoof Apple advert highlighting that its Galaxy Z was folding, has the highest resolution camera on the market and can do astrophotography, one of the rumoured Apple features that did not materialise.

Ironically, Eve's mother, Laurene Powell Jobs, the widow of the founder, has this week unveiled the Steve



Eve Jobs appears less than impressed by the iPhone 14

Jobs archive, which is designed to preserve the legacy of the technology pioneer who brought us the Mac, iPhone, iPod and iPad.

Powell Jobs said her hope was that "the archive will be a place to draw inspiration from Steve's life and work, spurring new generations to make their own contributions to our common future".

Many observers have questioned whether true innovation has stalled under Cook, a consummate operations man, since he took over from Jobs.

There has been no question about commercial success: a \$2.5 trillion company that has taken the gift of Jobs, the iPhone, and made it the most profitable product in history, preserving his legacy better than any archive.

The incremental changes between 13 and 14 also distract from the reality that most people who buy the latest will be upgrading from an iPhone 11 or earlier, so the changes will feel real to them.

However, some of the most significant recent smartphone changes have come from Apple's rivals, who have been forced to innovate to compete.

Nokia invented "pixel binning" technology that transformed phone cameras and Samsung created a mass market out of foldables.

Ben Wood, the chief analyst at CCS Insight, says the phone has now reached maturity so innovation will come elsewhere. "Smartphones are becoming more like washing machines."

"They all start to look the same as you kind of iteratively improve on something that works well. So it depends how you define innovation."

Damon Beres, the technology editor at *The Atlantic*, wrote this week: "The iPhone 14 with a suite of incremental and frankly boring improvements, is the iPhone that will change nothing." He concluded: "Where the iPhone once symbolised verve, it now evokes crushing inevitability."

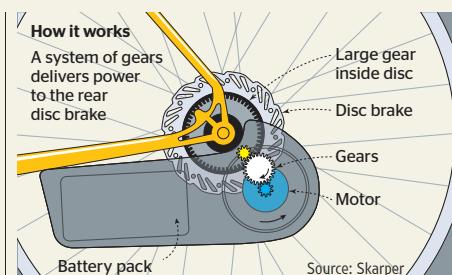


## Gadget that turns your bicycle into an e-bike

**W**hether it's to embrace a more active

lifestyle or reduce emissions, e-bikes have revolutionised the commute for an increasing number of Britons who are back in the saddle thanks to power-assisted cycling (Elizabeth Perlman writes).

Now, it is hoped that a technology invented by a British doctor will make e-bikes even more accessible. Alastair Darwood, 29, from London, has created Skarper — an all-in-one, clip-on motor and battery pack that can turn any bicycle with disc brakes



Source: Skarper

into an e-bike. You simply replace your bike's rear disc brake with Skarper's "DiskDrive".

I've only been on an e-bike a handful of times so I'm apprehensive to try it out. I don't even know what disc brakes are.

The product won't be available to buy until next year but demand is already high. Uri Meirovich, co-founder and chief operating officer at Skarper, said that in less than three months, there had been more than 16,000 online inquiries from consumers

interested in ordering the device, and more than 70 requests from companies hoping to distribute it. Sir Chris Hoy, the 11-time world champion cyclist, is a Skarper investor.

Skarper's launch comes amid a booming e-bike market. Sales in the UK reached an estimated £315 million last year, up from £275 million in 2020, according to the market analyst Mintel.

Skarper doesn't require you to make drastic alterations to your bike such as swapping out wheels or adding a hub

motor. It can convert a bike in minutes. "It's clip and go," Darwood said.

As an inexperienced cyclist, I'd need to go to a bike shop for the initial installation. After that attaching and removing the device from the ultra-light Cannondale gravel bike I'm on is relatively easy. Skarper provides 37 miles of assisted cycling which is capped at 15.5mph, the legal speed limit in the UK.

Skarper will sell for £1,000, which is expensive but Darwood says:

"It's worth it." While it's uncomfortable to use a 25-30kg e-bike switched off due to the drag, with Skarper you can cycle normally with far less added weight. And unlike e-bikes that have the battery integrated into the frame, I can charge the Skarper battery from the office in only two and a half hours, like a laptop.

Maybe Skarper will make a Lycra-clad e-biker of me yet.

## Teenager is facing jail for fatal stabbing

A teenager who fatally stabbed a fleeing A-level student in the back was yesterday convicted of manslaughter.

Justice Will-Mamah, whose father works for the children's charity Unicef, attacked 16-year-old Ahmednur Nuur when trouble broke out near Milton Keynes College in February this year. Will-Mamah had denied murder and claimed he was acting in self-defence.

Ahmednur, who was studying A-levels at Walton High, had gone with a friend to the college at lunchtime where they met a group of youths.

Will-Mamah, 18, who was studying for his A-levels at nearby St Paul's Catholic School, did not know Ahmednur but became involved in a fight with

his group. Luton crown court was told that after being knocked to the ground with a piece of concrete Will-Mamah returned with a knife he had taken from another boy.

Ahmednur, who is not thought to have thrown the concrete, was running away when he was stabbed in the left side of his back and collapsed, Jane Osborne KC, for the prosecution, said.

One girl described Ahmednur as the "weakest link" as the group ran off.

A student at Milton Keynes College said she ran outside to help. "His eyes were open, but he was not responsive and not breathing," she said. She asked for a defibrillator and gave CPR until a police officer arrived and applied a ban-

dage "which was very quickly soaked in blood. The paramedics then arrived."

Another student said that he saw a male person running off holding a "large kitchen knife". Paramedics were called but Ahmednur died shortly afterwards. The stab wound had gone through his lung and entered his heart and he died from blood loss.

Will-Mamah, of Bletchley, was cleared of murder but found guilty of manslaughter by a majority verdict and found guilty of possessing a knife. Judge Lynn Tayton KC adjourned sentencing for a probation report to be prepared and remanded Will-Mamah in custody, telling him: "It is likely there is to be a substantial custodial sentence."

## Bendy x-rays could help AI spot explosives and drugs

Using artificial intelligence (AI) with x-rays could detect dangerous items such as explosives, researchers say.

Alessandro Olivo, a professor at University College London (UCL), said AI provided a new way to inspect materials. "The tiny bends in x-rays have always been there," he said. "But they are invisible to conventional x-ray systems. This allows us to access previously untapped information."

Olivo said the system worked "extremely well" in detecting explosives and drugs. It could also be used in medical imaging or to check industrial

structures. The new method measures the tiny bends as the beam moves through materials.

AI could accurately identify objects and materials through their texture. The study reported a 100 per cent detection rate on explosives.

David Bate, a co-author and UCL medical professor, said: "We predict that the technique can be used to identify defects in industrial components such as cracks, rust or gaps before they are visible to the naked eye."

The findings are published in *Nature Communications*.

# World

## Liberated villagers tell of great escape from Russian shells

Residents dodge cluster bombs and minefields in a race to reach safety, reports

**Richard Spencer**

The moment of liberation was also the moment of greatest danger. Natalia Nevesela hugged the Ukrainian soldiers — “they were so handsome!” — who had come to her house to tell her she was free, but they said she had to get out, now.

Since her village was now in Ukrainian hands, the Russians would shell it, the soldiers told her.

It was true. As she and her husband dragged their motorised tricycle out of its hiding place and leapt onboard, a cluster bomb exploded over the house, destroying the roof above their heads.

For half an hour she clung on as her husband, Volodymyr Myza, drove the trike as fast as he dared between exploding shells and the minefields along the road north. Its maximum speed was 50mph and the Ukrainians were attacking villages to the west.

“I had to try to go as fast as I could because everything was burning all around me,” he said. “But we also had to zigzag round the craters and mines.”

Nevesela said the couple, both 50, passed strings of burning armoured vehicles as they struggled towards the Ukrainian-held town of Zelenodolsk. At one point they drove past Dobryanka, the village where she grew up. It was destroyed.

The process was terrifying, she said, adding that she had already been through four stages of terror in the war. The first was when the Russians arrived. Then there was the period where she and her husband hid in the

basement of their farmhouse for six months, afraid of the Russian soldiers in the village. Then there was the shelling on Russian positions. Finally there was the intense battle for the village, as the Ukrainians repeatedly tried to enter but were held up on the outskirts.

“Shells were whistling overhead,” she said. “We were just waiting to die.”

At one point, they heard the tank parked in the yard try to evade shellfire. Nevesela could see through the doorway how it manoeuvred frantically to escape the Ukrainian artillery. It was no use. “After half an hour they hit it and it blew up,” she said.

The Russian army had arrived in



their village, Novovoznesenske, in March, as part of its advance across southern Ukraine, eventually establishing a front line five miles away.

So close to the front, which remained largely static for months, there was no avoiding the repeated shelling. Last month the Ukrainians launched a complex strategic manoeuvre that may have changed the war in their favour, although their supporters are warning against over-optimism.

The Ukrainian army had signalled for weeks that there would be an advance on the Kherson front. The Russians sent reinforcements but on August 29 the Ukrainians attacked.

It has been a gruelling fortnight. The Ukrainians have sustained heavy casu-

alties, although they have refused to give details and banned reporters from anywhere close to the fighting. They cleared areas of no man’s land in countryside to the northwest of Kherson but made their most significant breakthrough on the northern side of the front, from the direction of Kryvyi Rih.

What initially looked like a vulnerable salient has turned into a bridgehead that has sucked Russians away from positions nearby and enabled the thrust to Novovoznesenske.

Meanwhile, the Russians may have fallen into a bigger trap by transferring so many resources to defend Kherson. On Tuesday Ukraine opened an unexpected front around Izum, southeast of Kharkiv.

The Russian lines collapsed in an advance of 30 miles in three days. On Thursday President Zelensky announced that Ukraine had liberated 30 settlements in the area, with his forces poised to threaten a big rail hub supplying Russian lines.

The couple from Novovoznesenske made it to safety. Arriving at Zelenodolsk, they found other residents of their village already waiting in buses to take them to Kryvyi Rih.

About 60 villagers stayed throughout the occupation, mostly to look after their farms as best they could, out of 300 before the war. One died.

Nevesela said that by the time she reached safety, she was emotionally numb and felt more lost than relieved. At least she was able to call her two daughters, in Poland and northern Ukraine, to tell them she was safe. But she could not help thinking about her pigs and cows and their calves, which the couple released into the fields so they could feed for themselves.

The tricycle is waiting for them in the car park by the bus stop in Zelenodolsk. The residents have said they will look after it for them until they return.

## Hollande: Macron duped by Putin lies

### France

**Charles Bremner Paris**

President Macron’s predecessor has accused him, as well as his own former partner, of indulging President Putin and blaming the West for the war in Ukraine.

François Hollande, the Socialist Party head of state who stepped down in 2017, rebuked Macron and Ségolène Royal, his longstanding companion and former cabinet minister, for being part of a French establishment that has been fooled by the Russian president and is soft on him.

“Emmanuel Macron is typical of a part of the political class that has always been quite indulgent, not to Russia but to Vladimir Putin,” Hollande told Inter radio in France.

Hollande, 68, added that Macron

appeared to have been duped by Putin in their numerous telephone conversations and meetings. “I had numerous talks with him [Putin] and what always struck me was his capacity for spouting lies,” he said.

Earlier this week Royal was disowned by her own Socialist Party and condemned by Olivier Véran, Macron’s government spokesman, for an outspoken attack on Ukraine. Her differences with Hollande echo weakening public support for sanctions against Russia and tension between the president and his diplomatic service over his belief that he should keep open his links with the Russian leader.

Royal, 68, the mother of four children with Hollande, voiced doubts about reported Russian atrocities against Ukrainians and accused President Zelensky of spreading false claims in order

to block attempts to negotiate peace. She said she doubted the Russians had shelled the maternity clinic at Mariupol or the massacre of civilians in the suburb of Bucha, in Kyiv, despite western news coverage of the events. “It was monstrous to broadcast things like that merely to interrupt the peace process,” she said. Royal later said she may have been wrong about some of the details but that she stuck by her overall view.

Hollande said Royal had a poor understanding of the conflict. “If you go down that road, the authoritarian regimes will have won,” he said.

Véran voiced outrage that Royal appeared to be blaming the victims of Russian aggression. “The war crimes are documented. Denying them is an insult to the people who have been murdered, raped and tortured. Saying the opposite is [Russian] propaganda.”



Extreme close-up One spectator, circled, took a selfie as a Royal Australian Air

## Calling bakery racist for

### United States

**Will Pavia New York**

A liberal university in Ohio is to pay \$36.6 million to a local bakery after students and staff falsely accused it of racism because an employee chased and restrained a black student he had seen shoplifting.

On Thursday Oberlin College’s board of trustees said it would pay damages awarded by the Ohio Court of Appeals, ending a five-year dispute that triggered a nationwide debate over race, criminal justice and free speech. The court upheld a jury verdict that Oberlin was liable for libel, intentional infliction of emotional distress and interference with a business.

However, his initial arrest, which came the day after Donald Trump was elected president, caused outrage on a campus with a long history of progressive activism. Students and staff

black students were arrested and accused of attempting to steal from the store. Allyn Gibson, a grandson of the owner, said he saw one of the students, a young man, hiding two bottles of wine in his coat. Gibson chased him across the street and tackled him. Two young female students then attacked Gibson, according to a police officer.

All three students were arrested and later pleaded guilty to misdemeanour charges. At his sentencing Jonathan Aladin, who pleaded guilty to attempted theft, read a statement acknowledging that Gibson was justified in trying to restrain him and that his actions had not been racially motivated.

Oberlin College students staged demonstrations outside Gibson’s Bakery in November 2016 a day after three



Force fighter jet took a low-level flight over the Story Bridge in Brisbane. Moist air meant it was shrouded in water vapour

## chasing a thief costs university \$37m

believed the trio had been attempting to purchase alcohol under-age with fake identification.

Oberlin, founded in 1833, was America's first interracial and co-educational college. It was also a stop on the Underground Railroad, which helped escaped slaves. In the past its canteen has become embroiled in a revolt against its servings of sushi and a General Tso chicken sandwich after allegations of cultural appropriation.

In the aftermath of the students' arrest, a flyer circulated calling for a boycott of the bakery, which it described as "a RACIST establishment with a LONG ACCOUNT OF RACIAL PROFILING and DISCRIMINATION". It accused Gibson of racially profiling the young man and improperly chasing and assaulting him.

Several hundred students protested

outside the bakery in the two days that followed. The student senate passed a resolution making similar claims that they posted in a student centre.

During its libel action Gibson's Bakery said that the college vice-president, Meredith Raimondo, had attended the protests, calling a witness who said he had seen her handing out flyers and telling students that they could make more copies in the college's conservatory office. The college also instructed the company supplying its dining hall to stop ordering food from Gibson's Bakery, according to court papers.

The college maintained that Raimondo had a duty to attend protests off-campus to ensure they took place peacefully, and argued students had a right to exercise freedom of speech.

Lawyers for the bakery, who sued the college alleging defamation, presented

text messages between members of staff at the college in which they expressed support for the protests. The college's interim assistant dean attended the court hearing where the three students were convicted, calling it "the most egregious process" and adding, "I hope we rain fire and brimstone on that store" in a text message to Raimondo.

After a retired professor at the college criticised the way it had handled the incident Raimondo texted another administrator saying: "F\*\*\* him. I'd say unleash the students if I wasn't convinced this needs to be put behind us," according to court papers.

Attorneys for the Gibson family cast it as a victory for David over Goliath and said they were grateful that the court "recognised the rights of individuals rather than the bullying tactics of the big institutions".

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# Sweden lurches to the right as crime rate soars

**Sweden**  
Oliver Moody

Sweden's radical right, long ostracised by the mainstream parties because of its white supremacist roots, is on course for the strongest result in its history at tomorrow's election and may hold the balance of power in parliament.

The Sweden Democrats, who want to all but eliminate asylum applications and use anti-terrorism laws against violent gangs, are likely to come second with about 20 per cent of the vote, according to latest polling. The outcome of the election remains too close to call with the left-leaning and right-of-centre blocs in parliament each poised to win about half of the seats.

As Magdalena Andersson, the centre-left prime minister, is expected to have difficulty assembling a viable coalition from the bickering parties of the left and centre, analysts believe this is the Sweden Democrats' best opportunity yet. While still too divisive to command a parliamentary majority of their own, they could install a right-wing government that would depend on their support and follow their policy priorities.

Mattias Karlsson, a senior Sweden Democrat MP and one of the architects of the party's rise, said the government had "failed on many important issues, especially law and order". The party's brand of social conservatism — tough on crime, immigration, integration and national values — appears to have resonated with an electorate that is increasingly concerned about Sweden's rising levels of gang violence.

The country has the second-highest level of fatal shootings per capita in Europe, after Croatia, and is the only state on the continent where the numbers are increasing. This is overwhelmingly driven by gangs vying for control of districts in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö and other towns and cities with handguns, hand grenades and improvised explosives.

In the first eight months of this year 48 people have been shot dead, with many innocent bystanders caught in the crossfire. A fortnight ago a young mother and her five-year-old son were hit by stray bullets on a playground in Eskilstuna, 90 minutes' drive west of Stockholm.

A week before that a 15-year-old boy was arrested on suspicion of shooting a rival gang leader and wounding a passing woman in a Malmö shopping centre.

While Sweden's overall murder rate remains low — roughly the same

as France and below Finland — the growing number of shootings is conspicuous and has spread insecurity and concern. Crime and immigration rank alongside health and education at the top of the electorate's priorities, well above energy and the economy despite inflation running at 8.5 per cent and unprecedentedly high electricity prices.

Sweden's traditional liberal approach to migration had already been hardening since the crisis in 2015 when it took in more asylum seekers relative to its size than any other European state.

Andersson's Social Democratic party has set out proposals to limit the number of non-Scandinavian foreigners permitted to live in the most troubled inner-city districts, following a similar policy in Denmark. The prime minister upset some liberals last week by saying she did not want to see "Somalitowns, Chinatowns or Little Italys" in Sweden.

The renewed focus on Sweden's patchy social cohesion has played to the strengths of the Sweden Democrats. The party's most significant weakness is its origins as the political wing of the Swedish counterpart to the British National Front.

Over the past two decades it has attempted to clean up its act with a zero tolerance policy towards racism and extremism and an ideological overhaul supervised by Karlsson and Jimmie Åkesson, the party leader.

Åkesson has appropriated the concept of the *folkhemmet*, or "people's home", an old Social Democratic vision of an essentially monocultural national family bound together by mutual obligation and a strong welfare state.

The detoxification is a work in progress: last week one of the Sweden Democrats' parliamentary officials was revealed to have invited colleagues to celebrate the anniversary of the Nazi Germany invasion of Poland in 1939.

On Thursday *Expressen*, a Swedish tabloid, reported that four of the party's candidates had variously called for the extermination of Muslims

and black people, propagated antisemitic conspiracy theories and belonged to neo-Nazi organisations.

This time, however, both the Moderates — traditionally the leading party of the Swedish centre right — and the conservative Christian Democrats have sided with the Sweden Democrats, breaking one of the strongest taboos in Scandinavian politics.

Ann-Cathrine Junghar, a political scientist at Södertörn University in Stockholm, said that the likeliest outcome of the election was a coalition government led by Ulf Kristersson, the head of the Moderates, leaning heavily on tacit support from the Sweden Democrats.



A neo-Nazi sympathiser protests in Stockholm

## World

# Gambling mecca is a busted flush

Chinese president's crackdown on casinos threatens the end of an era in Macau, writes Richard Lloyd Parry

For 60 years the old Chinese city of Macau has been an international symbol of the glamour, allure and squalor of the casino. Until recently the former Portuguese colony, 20 miles across the water from Hong Kong, had the biggest gambling industry in the world.

Its seedy neon charm has been depicted numerous times in fiction and on film, such as in Lawrence Osborne's novel *The Ballad of a Small Player*. In the 2012 James Bond film *Skyfall* Daniel Craig battles his attackers in the Golden Dragon Casino and ends up in a pit of man-eating Komodo dragons.

Now Macau's gambling industry has been plunged into crisis, an economic downward spiral from which it is hard to see it escaping. President Xi of China has spoken of the need for the city to "appropriately diversify its economy". There is talk of replacing casinos and high-rolling gamblers with theme parks and young families. For good or for ill, one of Asia's most distinctive and atmospheric cities is likely to change for ever.

The causes of the decline are several, with the pandemic only the most obvious, but its speed and scale have been stark. At its peak in 2013 revenue from gambling in Macau amounted to \$45 billion, equivalent to \$66,000 for every one of the city's 682,000 inhabitants. Las Vegas, the gambling capital of the United States, trailed in second place at \$13.5 billion.

Chinese culture's fascination with the workings of fate and the twists and turns of good and bad fortune has always found an outlet in games of skill and chance, from mahjong to roulette. In mainland China and Hong Kong, though, gambling is banned; only in Macau is it legal. Chinese gamblers on "junkets" from the mainland were the basis of Macau's prosperity. And they have stopped coming.

Last month Macau's casinos took \$271 million, about 9 per cent of revenues before the pandemic. In July, when the city was locked down for two weeks, takings were just \$49 million. Macau's chief executive Ho Iat-seng said this year: "We are at the lowest point of the gaming industry."

During Macau's first lockdown in



The Venetian casino in Macau epitomised the glamour that attracted high-rolling gamblers and the makers of films such as *Skyfall*. Last month the city's revenues were only 9 per cent of those before the pandemic



2020 casinos were a special case, exempted from the mandatory closures imposed on other businesses. But if the croupiers and bar staff turned up, the punters did not, blocked by the restrictions on travel for people from other areas of China.

Even if there had been no pandemic, Macau's 42 casinos would still be facing difficult times. Their ten-year licences are up for renewal this year. Taxes from

gambling formerly provided the Macau government with four fifths of its income, so it will undoubtedly renew them. But the terms will be stricter—it has already announced a cap of 12,000 gaming machines next year, meaning that 5,000 of those in operation at present will have to be turned off. This is part of the broad crackdown on corruption and institutionalised criminality pursued by Xi, which is as much about control as about justice.

The wealthy criminals who launder money through Macau's casinos represent a challenge to Xi's authority and monopoly on power. Among the victims of his campaign is Alvin Chau, formerly one of Macau's biggest "junket operators"—companies that organise travel, accommodation and credit for incoming gamblers.

Last year Chau was arrested and last month he went on trial charged with



more than 200 offences, including illegal gambling, running a criminal syndicate, money laundering and fraud.

Already, the inevitable is happening and businesses dependent on gambling are moving out. Several companies that supply casinos with slot machines and baccarat tables are relocating parts of their business to Singapore and the Philippines, countries that have a more relaxed regime.

The tacky glamour of the casinos was one of their unique attractions but the pandemic has accelerated a general trend towards online gambling. Just as business people have become used to holding meetings via Zoom, so gamblers are gaming their cash at their

keyboards, in peace and privacy. The difficulty of regulating online gaming has played into the hands of criminal syndicates in the more lawless parts of southeast Asia, including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and the Philippines. According to Jeremy Douglas of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, criminal gangs have created websites and smartphone apps, using cryptocurrency trading and indirect payment to allow the transfer of money across borders.

"It is clear that an irreversible, fluid and now tech-enabled dispersal of major criminal activity has taken place in some of the least developed and corrupted parts of southeast Asia," wrote Douglas. "The situation ... is starting to get out of control. They accelerated the move of operations online out of necessity, and can now access people around the world—places like Australia, Canada and the US are a click away."

All of this means that even if travel within China returns many of the gamblers will not. It will be years before the industry dies out, but a generation from now James Bond may be drinking his dry martini alone in London, gambling virtual chips on a smartphone.

## We will strike first with nuclear weapons, warns North Korea

### North Korea

Richard Lloyd Parry Tokyo

North Korea will pre-emptively use nuclear weapons in response to any serious attack on it or its leaders, according to a new law passed by the country's tame parliament.

Kim Jong-un, the North Korean leader, told the Supreme People's Assembly that Pyongyang would never negotiate over its nuclear weapons, in what amounts to an assertion of what has been obvious for years—that

it is, and intends to remain, a nuclear power.

"The aim of the United States is not just to eliminate our nuclear weapons themselves but also ultimately to bring down our regime anytime by forcing [North Korea] to put down nuclear weapons and give up or weaken the power to exercise self-defence," Kim told the assembly.

"Let them sanction us for 100 days, 1,000 days, ten years or 100 years... The utmost significance of legislating nuclear weapons policy is to draw an



Kim Jong-un at an event celebrating the 74th anniversary of North Korea

irreversible line so that there can be no bargaining over our nuclear weapons."

According to reports on state media, there are several situations that would provoke a nuclear response. These include what is merely judged to be an imminent nuclear attack by its enemies.

An attack on the state leadership, even with conventional weapons, would also invite nuclear retaliation.

Other markedly vague conditions include "a fatal military attack against important strategic objects of the state".

The new law is a clear riposte to Pres-

ident Yoon of South Korea, who has emphasised a plan known as "Kill Chain" that is intended to kill Kim and his senior cadres. It will complicate strategic thinking by US and South Korean leaders by clearly stating that any serious military action against it could ignite a nuclear war.

"As long as nuclear weapons remain on earth and imperialism remains and manoeuvres of the United States and its followers against our republic are not terminated, our work to strengthen nuclear force will not cease," Kim said.

# Tasmanian devils face wipeout on hellish roads

## Australia

Bernard Lagan Sydney

Speeding drivers have killed almost 160 endangered Tasmanian devils within the past 18 months on a 15-mile stretch of road, leaving animal lovers despairing on an island with the world's worst record for roadkill.

On average 32 animals die every hour on roads in Tasmania, where about half a million people live in an area three times the size of Wales. They kill more creatures per mile than anywhere else.

Almost 300,000 animals are killed each year, with the devils suffering as dairy farms and wind farms spread into their habitat.

Alice Carson, of Woolnorth, north-west Tasmania, said: "It's very much a cultural thing — lots of people think the devils are vermin."

Along with other volunteers she documents the animals killed in the area. The devils around the town are free of the facial tumour that has killed at least 80 per cent of the species on the island.

"This population is unique ... yet we are just smashing them," Carson said yesterday. "We had 28 dead in two weeks. It's nothing to see three a day. There are probably more getting hit but dying later in the bush. We have trucks doing 150-160km/h [100mph]. Reducing the speed limit and ... policing it with a speed camera would be a start."

Carson and others fear that traffic on the stretch of road leading to dairy farms and a wind farm threatens the last of Tasmania's healthy devils.

The largest living carnivorous marsupial, devils can grow as big as medium-sized dogs. They once lived on the Australian mainland but are now found only in the wilds of Tasmania, surviving on small prey such as frogs, birds, fish and insects.

Devil sightings have fallen by 80 per cent over the past 20 years, confirming that the species is in rapid decline.

Dr Collette Harmsen, a veterinary surgeon, said Tasmania's verdant road sides attracted plant-eating animals, making them vulnerable to speeding vehicles. Plans for a 122-turbine wind farm will increase traffic along the road.

Harmsen said: "It's going to add more to an already horribly depressing outcome for the Tasmanian devils."



The treasures include a 4th-century BC plate depicting Eros and a 6th-century BC Etruscan amphora

## Museum of stolen art is Rome's hot ticket

**T**he director of Rome's newest and most unusual museum gestured at the stunning collection of pre-Roman vases, perfume bottles, wine jugs and tableware and shook his head (Tom Kington writes).

"We'd be actually be happy if this museum did not exist," said Stéphane Verger, who has run

Rome's Museum of Saved Art since it opened in June. Launched with the help of Italy's Carabinieri police art theft squad, the museum is showing off precious artefacts seized after they were looted from archaeological sites in Italy and sold by duplicitous dealers to some of America's most prominent museums and collectors.

Now displaying 101 pieces recently snatched back by the authorities, the museum is about to receive more treasures from

among 58 artefacts worth \$19 million seized by New York prosecutors, including works from the city's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Verger headed towards an empty space in the middle of the museum that this month will host

*Orpheus and the Sirens*, a 4th century BC group of three life-size terracotta statues looted from near Taranto in southern Italy, which the Getty museum in Los Angeles has been ordered to return. "These statues are

unique, dating back to when Taranto was a key Greek city," he said.

General Roberto Riccardi, head of the Carabinieri art squad, who was in Los Angeles this week to oversee the return of *Orpheus and the Sirens*, said he felt "doubly emotional" about the new Rome museum.

"You appreciate the beauty of the pieces but there is also the idea we are getting back Italy's cultural identity," he said. "I have previously tackled the mafia, but those operations just produce headlines. The results of what I am doing now will remain forever, to be visited by people in 100 years."



# Bull-hunting festival defies Madrid ban

## Spain

David Sharrock Madrid

A festival in which a bull is chased through the streets of a Spanish town and speared by lancers on horseback is set to be revived as local politicians and organisers defy attempts to stop it.

Next Tuesday at the Toro de la Vega festival up to 50 lancers and thousands of spectators will pursue a half-tonne bull through the town of Tordesillas. It is due to go ahead despite the Ministry for Social Rights ordering the public prosecutor to ensure that it does not. Animal welfare activists plan to stage protests.

The public killing of a bull in festivals, known as *encierros*, was banned in 2016 by the regional government of Castilla y Leon, where Tordesillas is located.

However, after lengthy negotiations and a hiatus caused by the pandemic, the Toro de la Vega is to return with new rules. Rather than killing the bull in the street, lancers will compete to attach harpoon-like badges to the animal by piercing its skin. After a winner is declared, the bull will be taken to an abattoir and killed.

The left-wing Podemos party, a partner in the national coalition government, said the festival fell foul of the 2016 law that explicitly prohibits "wounding, pricking, beating, restraining or treating in any other cruel way" cattle, including bulls.

Lilit Verstrynge, a member of Podemos and secretary of state at the social rights ministry, said: "Spain is far ahead of these celebrations and we believe that popular festivities can be with

music, dance and sport but they do not have to be with animal mistreatment."

However, Cuca Gamarra, a spokeswoman for the right-wing Popular Party, which governs the region as part of a coalition, said: "There are cultural traditions that, within the scope of maximum security, must be respected and protected. Podemos likes to prohibit absolutely everything and seek confrontation between Spaniards."

Enrique Carnero, president of the festival, compared the pain the bull would suffer to falling into brambles.

Vox, the Popular Party's junior partner, has demanded that the full rites of the festival be restored, including the public killing of the bull.

Spain's 17 autonomous regions have wide scope to set, as well as follow, rules on animal welfare and in a country



A bull is speared during the running of Toro de la Vega in Tordesillas in 2006

divided along rural and urban lines there is a widening gap between attitudes towards traditional festivities, which often feature cruelty to animals.

The tournament, which dates back to the Middle Ages and was banned for several years during Franco's dictator-

ship, will have a maximum of 50 participants competing to land an 8cm spike in the bull's neck.

It was the focus of the change in the law in 2016 after violent clashes between protesters and supporters. The regional government banned the public killing of bulls in festivals but stopped short of applying the legislation to bullfights.

The bull that has been selected to run through the streets of Tordesillas is called Manjar and weighs 560kg.

Pacma, Spain's largest animal activist group, said: "If the Toro de la Vega returns to Tordesillas ... we will return to the streets. We will not allow any steps backwards and animals to be tortured again in Tordesillas, as in the past. We will do everything we can to stop it."

# France fights online stores that deliver in minutes

## France

Adam Sage Paris

France is to crack down on the ultra-fast delivery sector after complaints that city-centre warehouses generate round-the-clock noise and disturbance.

President Macron has been forced to backtrack on plans to encourage the spread of "dark stores", as the sector's warehouses are known, in the face of widespread opposition from mayors across the country.

The stores are operated by companies including Getir, Flink and Gopuff, which promise to deliver shopping within minutes of it being ordered online. Their economic model relies on the creation of small warehouses in residential areas, enabling couriers to get goods to customers swiftly.

Stores have developed amid a legal void and a debate over whether to categorise them as shops or warehouses. The point is significant, since mayors have powers to shut warehouses in city centres but often struggle to force the closure of shops.

Macron initially welcomed dark stores for modernising retail and his government drew up legislation that would let them be categorised as shops if they had counters where customers could pick up orders. However, the move infuriated mayors, who said they were inundated with complaints from nearby residents.

"We're living in hell," said Nathalie, a resident of Montpellier in southern France, whose flat is near a Getir dark store. She told *Midi Libre*, the local newspaper, that noise from the warehouse began at 7.30am each day and continued until after midnight. Neighbours had asked the couriers "to make less noise, not to park under our windows, to turn their music down", she said, to no avail.

Now Macron has backed down and agreed to categorise all such stores as warehouses, giving mayors the ability to close them. Arnaud Deslandes, deputy mayor of the northern city of Lille, welcomed the move but suggested the ultra-fast delivery sector might ignore orders to shut its stores, given that the maximum fine was €25,000. "Their business model based on sales worth millions of euros means they will not be worried," he argued.

## World

# City that never sleeps split over alfresco dining

## United States

Will Pavia New York

On a damp night in New York two women were finishing their dinner in a shelter full of sofas and antique furniture that stretches across the pavement outside a smart Italian restaurant.

"I love it," said Julie Albert, 36, a lawyer from the Upper East Side. "It makes the streets really vibrant."

Outside a nearby cafe, in a wooden shed decorated with palms and plastic flowers, another diner said the shelters had given the Big Apple the feel of a European city. "I think they should keep them," she said.

Not everyone agrees with these glowing assessments of the shelters that still line the streets of New York's busiest areas. Credited with saving thousands of restaurants during the pandemic, by allowing hesitant diners to eat outside, critics say they have turned smart streets into slums and provided new homes for rats. A battle is now commencing over the shelters, as the city considers new guidelines that would make them permanent.

"The sheds are eyesores and graffiti-ridden structures that house the homeless during the day," said Deborah Gonzalez, in an affidavit filed as part of a lawsuit against the city over the dining shelters. By night, from Thursday to Sunday in her neighbourhood of the Lower East Side, "our homes feel like they are being attacked by the crowds of partiers" in the sheds on the street.

On the Upper West Side Michael Kenna complained that a local bar beneath his flat had tripled in size, by

**Many of the outdoor areas were put up to attract hesitant diners during Covid**



building a shelter half the length of the block, and boomed with the sound of dance music and drunken crowds.

In Queens, Elizabeth DeMayo said the shelters were covered in graffiti and provided lodging for raccoons. "I'm sure they remind no one of Paris," she said.

Some restaurant owners agree the shelters should go. "Some of the small restaurants really, really benefited," said Ali Tisi, owner of Il Piccolo Bufalo in Little Italy. It had saved him money too as he no longer needed to pay for a permit for outdoor seating. "Even though I benefit from them, it's an eyesore," he said. "I don't like the way they look. I don't like the way they are maintained."

But Eric Adams, New York's nightlife-loving mayor, is a fan of them.

"They have transformed the city," he said recently. "We're the city that never sleeps. In fact we don't even take a nap," he said. "As long as I have something to say about it, this initiative will be here."

The city has begun tearing down abandoned sheds and has promised to remove others that constitute a public nuisance, while it looks to create a set of regulations that would allow the shelters to remain permanently. It says that 86 per cent of New Yorkers support its "open restaurant programme", adding that the lawsuit, which has delayed things, was filed by "a small minority".

Andrew Rigue, director of the New York City Hospitality Alliance, said: "Outdoor dining saved thousands of restaurants." He expects rules for more elaborate sheds will include stipulation that restaurants use weather-resistant materials (many "were built quickly when restaurants had no money, so they used plywood") with decks that are solid, that do not provide

shelter for rats.



## Everything falls in place for autumn to dazzle

**F**or Colorado's intrepid leaf peepers, the end of summer brings the most exciting time of the year, when the changing foliage and late-season blooms bring a kaleidoscope of colour, blanketing the Rocky Mountains in hues of red, orange and gold (Keiran Southern writes).

After surveying the state's vast forests, Dan West, an entomology expert who works with the Colorado State Forest Service, has good news for those who get a thrill

from observing the changing colours. Leaf peepers, he says, should be in for a bumper year, partly thanks to monsoonal weather over recent months.

A promising 30-day forecast also fills West with hope that peak colours could emerge in mid-September. He said conditions appeared almost perfect for vibrant foliage over the coming weeks, with warm, sunny days and cool nights.

The change in colours occurs as the nights lengthen and trees begin preparing for winter. Chlorophyll, which produces the green colour of spring and summer, becomes trapped inside leaves and is burnt off by the sun. The process results in the yellows and reds associated with autumn.

**The next month or so** brings the "perfect scenario", West said, adding: "Barring any changes from the 30-day outlook, it looks like we're set up for a really great season this year."

Recent years have brought severe drought and far from ideal conditions. The lack of moisture can make some leaf changes occur earlier and last for a shorter time, while in some cases drought-stricken leaves turn brown before dropping off. In the north of the state, West said peak autumn colours should be found in mid to late September, with the central and southern regions enjoying their high points slightly later before the leaves start to drop off after a week or two.

It is not all good news,

Autumn leaf enthusiasts are in for a treat in areas such as the foothills of Mt Sopris, in northwestern Colorado

however. Climate change means good years of striking foliage are becoming less frequent, West said, noting that his parents' generation enjoyed autumn after autumn of prime leaf-peeping conditions. Now he advises enthusiasts to make the most of each good cycle.

In California leaf-peepers are keen to remind the country that, in the words of a popular blog, "Dude, fall happens here too". On [californiafallcolor.com](http://californiafallcolor.com), a map shows areas where leaves will be at their most vibrant. But thanks to the West Coast state's warmer climate, colours will peak later in the year.

## Saudi dealings cast a shadow on Kushner's bid for the limelight

Hugh Tomlinson



**J**ared Kushner, Donald Trump's son-in-law and his former White House adviser, has been doing the rounds on TV chat shows, plugging his new memoir.

Among the string of books published by former Trump officials in the 18 months since he left office, few have attracted the vitriol aimed at *Breaking History*, Kushner's self-aggrandising account of his time at the former president's side.

The book hit the No 1 spot on *The New York Times*'s non-fiction bestseller list last week but has been eviscerated by critics and former colleagues. Loyally sidestepping the

chaos of the Trump administration, Kushner focuses on his own contributions, his brushes with celebrity and the praise showered upon him at home and abroad.

In his time at the White House Kushner, 41, was notorious for meddling in the portfolios of more qualified officials. He muscled in on US foreign policy, trade negotiations and the response to Covid-19, exploiting his position as Ivanka Trump's husband.

Stephanie Grisham, the former White House press secretary, dubbed Kushner "the slim reaper" in her own memoir, pointing to his knack of taking credit for successes and evading blame for failures.

Peter Navarro, another former Trump adviser,

this week called Kushner the "Rasputin son-in-law", claiming that if he "had never, ever darkened the door of the White House, I believe Trump would still be in the Oval Office".

Kushner is the son of a wealthy businessman of shady reputation who served prison time in a tax fraud case that involved sex tapes and a prostitute. The online magazine *Slate* observed in its review of *Breaking History* that Kushner, like his father-in-law, was "desperate to prove what can never be proven: that they, too, would

Jared Kushner was alleged to be "in the pocket" of the Saudi crown prince

have made successes of themselves even without Daddy's help".

Dwight Garner noted in a scathing review in *The New York Times*: "Kushner writes as if he believes foreign dignitaries (and less-than dignitaries) prized him in the White House because he was the 'fresh ideas' guy ... the dimpled go-getter."

Garner said Kushner had unique qualifications to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: he had "read 25 books on it". "He was in over his head," Garner wrote, "unable to curb his avarice, a cocky young real estate heir. Jared was a soft touch."

The timing of the book's publication has thrown Kushner's dealings with authoritarian leaders abroad into new relief, coinciding with the FBI raid on Trump's home at Mar-a-Lago last month. The trove of top-secret and classified material seized at the former president's Florida estate, said to include details of an unnamed foreign power's military defences and nuclear capability, has left Trump facing

criminal investigation for obstruction of justice and espionage.

Kushner's illicit contact with Russian officials during Trump's 2016 election campaign fuelled the allegations of collusion with Moscow. Now it is Kushner's close ties to Israel and Saudi Arabia — sworn enemies of Iran and its covert nuclear programme — that are under the spotlight.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia is said to have bragged that he had Kushner "in his pocket". The Saudis donated \$2 billion to Kushner's fledgling equity firm weeks after he left the White House last year, raising questions about what the Gulf kingdom expected in return.

*Breaking History*, meanwhile, has been channelled into the Trump fundraising machine. The former president's Save America committee has bombarded supporters with emails offering signed copies of the book in return for a donation of \$75 — more than double the retail price.



# Business

## WORLD MARKETS (Change on the day)

**FTSE 100**  
7,351.07 (+89.01) ▲



**Dow Jones**  
32,151.71 (+377.19) ▲



## COMMODITIES

**Gold**  
\$1,716.91 (+10.32) ▲



**Brent crude (6pm)**  
\$92.83 (+3.60) ▲



## CURRENCIES

**£/\$**  
\$1.1543 (+0.0004) ▲



**£/€**  
€1.1593 (+0.0109) ▲



## Back sterling to recover from historic low, says US 'bond king'

Mehreen Khan Economics Editor

Investors should buy the weakening pound after it fell to its lowest level in nearly 40 years, according to Bill Gross, the fund manager renowned as the "bond king".

Gross, 78, co-founder of Pimco, the giant bonds group, told investors that he was "long the pound", betting that a strong dollar would soon reverse and lift sterling after it hit its weakest level

since 1985. "Despite fiscal and political problems, I am long the pound because of an overvaluation of the dollar against all major currencies," the American billionaire said. "Continued large trade deficits and a ceiling on the Fed's ability to raise rates to anticipated levels due to future recession will limit further depreciation of the pound and likely lead to future relative increases compared to the dollar."

The pound has fallen by 14 per cent

against the dollar this year as investors have dumped it amid fears the economy is heading for a prolonged recession caused by record energy prices. Sterling rose 0.6 per cent against the dollar yesterday to hit \$1.15.

Gross made headlines in 2010 when he described UK government bonds as "resting on a bed of nitroglycerine" in the midst of the eurozone's sovereign debt crisis.

The pound has been driven fresh

lows this week after Liz Truss announced an emergency package of spending measures that could total up to £150 billion.

The prospect of fiscal stimulus should help to ease fears about a recession and may embolden the Bank of England to raise rates at a faster pace, two factors that ordinarily should help to support the currency. However, investors have honed in on the prospect of a widening budget deficit and extra

government borrowing worsening the account deficit.

"The UK's heavy reliance on external financing remains an Achilles' heel for the pound which could be made worse by the big fiscal stimulus package," Derek Halpenny, at MUFG bank said.

Some analysts have warned that the UK is at risk of a currency crisis, but Neil Shearing, at Capital Economics the consultancy, said the pound "is not an emerging market currency".

# Asos raises sales alarm for retailers

Slowdown warning heightens fears over inflation

Emma Powell

Asos yesterday became the latest retailer to warn of a slowdown in sales as the soaring cost of living dampens consumer spending, with the market bracing for further cuts to its earnings forecasts over the next 12 months.

The online clothing seller said that its sales in August had been weaker than expected, blaming the pressure of heightened inflation and a slower start to autumn and winter shopping caused by this summer's heatwave.

Associated British Foods, the owner of Primark, said on Thursday that profits at its shops were weakening, an indication that people are reining in discretionary spending as the cost of living rises sharply.

Analysts expect annual sales growth of almost 10 per cent to the end of August and 12 per cent the year after that, but some have argued that expectations need to be lowered.

"I do think that consensus numbers need to come down still across the space, but that is baked into share prices already," Sherri Malek, at RBC Capital, said. "There are more disappointments to come and the question is to what extent."

Analysts at Liberum cut their target price on the stock to 700p, from 900p, arguing that consensus forecasts for sales over the next two years seemed "optimistic".

Thinner profit margins make a drop in sales growth more painful for Asos than for others, including Dunelm or Next, according to John Stevenson, an analyst at Peel Hunt. However, there could be scope for improvement in gross margins over the next year.

With double-digit inflation, analysts expect more profit warnings. "A high percentage of retailers in this reporting season will lower expectations," Jonathan Pritchard, of Peel Hunt, said. "The question is how much of this are share prices discounting."

Retailers including DFS Furniture, Dunelm and THG, the troubled commerce company, are due to update the market next week.

In an unscheduled update to the City

yesterday, Asos forecast sales growth of 2 per cent for the 12 months to the end

of August, much lower than the 21 per cent increase that it reported the year before.

The shares fell 5p, or 0.7 per cent, to 673½p yesterday.

Analysts had already reduced their profit forecasts for the year to the lower end of the range suggested by Asos. In June the company warned that there had been a surge in product returns and that profits for the full year would be in the £20 million to £60 million range, not £110 million to £140 million as previously expected.

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While the British Fashion Council

has said that no shows would take place on the day of the funeral and that "non-core business events", such as parties, should be cancelled or postponed, it is planning to press ahead with the week.

However, Raf Simons, the leading Belgian designer, has also cancelled his runway show.

Burberry, which was granted a royal warrant by the Queen in 1955 as a weatherproof, said on its website that it was "deeply saddened" by her death.

Its decision came as businesses from JD Wetherspoon, the pubs chain, to Lloyd's of London, the insurance market, took steps to mark the passing of the Queen.

Wetherspoon told its pub managers to cancel quizzes and other entertainment events planned for yesterday evening and said its chain of Lloyd's bars would not host DJs. The pubs group said on its website that it "was

grateful for the 70 years of public service which the Queen gave to the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, to whom she dedicated her life".

Lloyd's, the world's biggest insurance market, said it was planning to close its building in the City of London on the day of the funeral. On Thursday evening the insurance market rang its Lutine bell, which hangs in the building's atrium, in honour of the Queen.

French Connection, Russell & Bromley, Selfridges and Liberty closed their shops yesterday as a mark of respect.

Google, the American internet group, changed its normally multicoloured logo on its search page to grey. Interest rate decision delayed, page 47



The Queen with Dame Anna Wintour, the Vogue editor, at London Fashion Week in 2018. Organisers plan to hold the event

## Burberry checks out of fashion week

Ben Martin

Burberry has cancelled its runway show at London Fashion Week in response to the death of the Queen.

The luxury retailer's show is normally a centrepiece of the trade event and its decision not to showcase its spring/summer 2023 collection next Saturday is likely to put pressure on the organisers to cancel.

Fashion Week starts on Friday and finishes the following Tuesday and therefore potentially could coincide with the Queen's funeral.

While the British Fashion Council

## Business

### Need to know

**1** The building at 363 Oxford Street, opened by Sir Edward Elgar in 1921, was HMV's main record shop for nearly a century. Now featuring a new name, Candy World, its fate is a prime example of how American-themed "candy stores" are taking over British high streets. Seven of the ten on Oxford Street have entire sections or walls dedicated to vapes. **Page 36**

**2** Campaigners are organising another fighting fund to take on Liz Truss after the prime minister gave the go-ahead for fracking. The Campaign to Protect Rural England forced the government in 2019 to ditch its plans to extract gas and oil from shale rock. **Page 38**

**3** Not long after the world's media had assembled in the Steve Jobs Theater at Apple's California headquarters this week for the launch of the new iPhone, the daughter of the company's founder posted a picture that summed up some observers' thoughts: is that it? **Page 39**

**4** Asos has become the latest retailer to warn of a slowdown in sales as the cost of living crisis hits consumer spending. The online clothing retailer said that sales last month had been weaker than expected. **Page 45**

**5** Investors should buy the weakening pound after it fell to its lowest level in nearly 40 years, according to Bill Gross, the co-founder of Pimco, the giant bonds group. **Page 45**

**6** Burberry has cancelled its runway show at London Fashion Week after the death of the Queen. The luxury retailer's show is normally a centrepiece of the trade event and its decision not to showcase its spring/summer 2023 collection next Saturday is likely to put pressure on the organisers to cancel. **Page 45**

**7** Profits at Computacenter fell short of City forecasts as it continued to adjust to the post-Covid landscape. Shares in the computer services supplier tumbled by 11.4 per cent after it said pre-tax profits for the first half of the year had fallen by 6 per cent to £108 million.

**8** The man who argues stock markets could be heading for a 1929-32 Wall Street-style crash cannot be accused of being timid about his own investments. Jeremy Grantham, Wall Street's resident "superbear", has 75 per cent of the portfolio in his \$1.5 billion charitable foundation allocated to early-stage venture capital. **Page 48**

**9** The UK has recorded one of the biggest drops in real wages among the 38 members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, a report shows. Real pay — the value of incomes after adjusting for the impact of inflation — is on course to fall by 2.9 per cent this year, compared with a 2.3 per cent average across the bloc. **Page 49**

**10** Singing and smiling to your friends will soon be possible on Roblox, the Nasdaq-listed three-dimensional gaming platform popular with teenagers. **Page 50**

# Feathers fly over Starling's

The challenger bank is under fire amid fears of widespread fraud, write **George Greenwood** and **Ben Martin**

**F**or a while, it seemed that Starling Bank could do no wrong. Having started from scratch eight years ago, it has grown to boast 2.7 million account-holders, attracted by its easy, app-based service and low fees, and widespread industry acclaim. "I believe the key to our success is listening to our customers. And long may it continue," Anne Boden, its founder and boss, said when the company won its fourth consecutive Best British Bank award in 2021.

Now, however, Starling is under a very different spotlight. The customers that Boden, 62, lauded so gratefully have underwritten a rapid expansion in its lending to small businesses after the bank seized on state-backed pandemic financing schemes to turbocharge the growth of its loan book. And, through their taxes, they are now on the hook for fraud and credit losses suffered on many of the loans.

Cue a very public and increasingly acrimonious row between the bank and the government's former counter-fraud minister. In May Lord Agnew of Oulton claimed that the bank had failed in its anti-fraud duties on the government's £47 billion bounce back loan scheme. Boden has hit back, strongly rejecting his suggestions.

The bounce back loans programme was an important lifeline for small and medium-sized businesses during the Covid outbreak, with companies able to borrow as much as £50,000 in loans that carried a 100 per cent government guarantee. But there have been growing fears since then that the scheme was a focus for fraudsters and that potentially billions of pounds have been lost to criminal activity.

Official figures released last week brought fresh attention to Starling's handling of bounce back loans. The data suggested Starling had identified 5.8 per cent of loans drawn under the scheme as suspected fraud, higher than the 2.3 per cent average for banks in the programme.

Of the £1.6 billion drawn by Starling under the scheme, about £92 million has been flagged as potentially fraudulent. In total, £175 million lent by Starling was in arrears and £284 million in

loans had defaulted, with the bank having settled claims of £106 million against the government guarantee.

As long as banks met limited fraud checks required under the scheme, which was managed by state lender the British Business Bank, they were entitled to claim back fraud and credit losses from the taxpayer.

Starling was the sixth biggest bank in the bounce back scheme in terms of amount drawn. The only lenders that drew more were Barclays, NatWest, Lloyds, HSBC and Santander UK, the established high street banks that Starling originally was set up to challenge. Starling's small business lending totalled more than £2 billion as of March 31 this year, of which more than £1.8 billion was subject to government-guarantee. For a bank that had a small business loan book of only £115,000 at the end of November 2019, this represents a remarkable expansion.

Starling also participated in the government's coronavirus business interruption loan scheme, which included an 80 per cent state guarantee on loans of up to £5 million to smaller companies. Concerns about fraud have centred on bounce back lending, though, because banks were under pressure to issue these loans quickly with only limited due diligence.

The latest official figures show Starling has the fourth highest rate of suspected fraud of the banks that participated in the scheme. Those with higher rates were all much smaller bounce back lenders than Starling. Capital On Tap, a relative minnow in the banking sector, had a 27.7 per cent fraud rate on its £20 million in bounce back loans, while the also-tiny Conister Finance & Leasing had a 24.1 per cent rate on a drawn value of £10.4 million. Bank of Ireland's suspected fraud rate was 6.7 per cent on £248 million.

The emergency schemes solved a conundrum for Starling, according to Gary Greenwood, a banks analyst at Shore Capital, the City broker. "The problem that Starling had was, like many of these other neobanks, they had loads of customers but they were mainly on the deposit side and they weren't really making any money out of them," he said. "In order to make money, you needed to lend those deposits out. The government-guaranteed loan schemes provided a convenient way to kick-start that business."

John Cronin, at Goodbody, another broker, said: "Starling obviously capitalised on the opportunity. They were nowhere in lending before the pandemic and the big question was always how were they going to grow a loan

Anne Boden has mounted a strong defence of Starling's loan fraud checks



book. The bounce back scheme positioned them to develop one very quickly. I don't think they've done anything wrong, but, yes, the government does have to pick up the tab."

Could such a rapid expansion in a

short space of time be to blame? Starling's higher fraud rate could reflect the fact that new lenders operate at a disadvantage to established lenders and there's a propensity for new lenders which lack experience to have a greater

## Big picture eases as Cineworld wins cash injection

**Emma Powell**

Cineworld has secured a huge cash injection from existing lenders after filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the United States this week.

The cinema chain said that an American bankruptcy court had granted it access to up to \$785 million in financial aid secured from the lenders.

This has bought it more time to reduce its debts and to restructure its balance sheet in a move that would, in effect, wipe out existing shareholders. The cash, part of a financing facility of \$1.94 billion available under bankruptcy proceedings, will be used to fund the group's daily operations, including paying staff and suppliers. All its cinemas in Britain, Jersey and the US will remain open.

The company is trying to agree a



The release of *Avatar: The Way of Water* is scheduled for December

debt-for-equity swap with its lenders that would convert some of the debt owed by Cineworld to equity in the company. That, in turn, would "result in very significant dilution of existing equity interests" in the group.

The business also has said that it would use the restructuring to talk to its landlords in America and to negotiate better lease terms.

Cineworld's net debt including lease liabilities stood at \$8.9 billion at the end of last year. Excluding lease liabilities, its net debt was \$4.84 billion at that time.

The world's second largest cinema chain operates in ten countries and employs more than 25,000 people. It expanded through a series of acquisitions under Moshe "Mooky" Greiderer, 69, its chief executive, whose family has the largest shareholding.

The company has been grappling with the disruption to its operations during the Covid-19 pandemic, competition from streaming services and is contesting damages of more than £800 million after becoming embroiled in a lawsuit with Cineplex, a rival Canadian chain, after backing out of an acquisition. Then it was hit by a shortage of big-budget film releases that was deterring cinema-goers — a problem that it said was likely to persist until at least November. New releases such as *Avatar: The Way of Water* are scheduled for December.

Greiderer said: "Approval of our requested 'first day' relief is a positive step forward for the group and our restructuring efforts." More aid could be released by the court.

Yesterday shares in Cineworld fell nearly 8 per cent to 3.81p.

# role in bounce back loans



level of credit problems," Cronin said. "I suspect Starling might also have been a bit more willing to lend to propositions other banks turned down."

Given the scale of Starling's bounce back lending, its performance is being

closely followed in Westminster. Agnew, 61, who resigned in January over the government's "woeful" oversight of the bounce back scheme, has appointed himself Starling's critic-in-chief. In comments in May at a counter-

fraud event at Westminster Abbey, Agnew pulled no punches, saying that the online bank had "acted against the government and taxpayers' interests" and was one of the worst banks for preventing fraud and flagging up suspicions. He accused Starling of using the scheme as a "cost-free marketing exercise", saying that it had been "one of the worst" performers on the scheme when it came to checking borrowers' turnover claims — which formed the basis of how much they could borrow.

"They took this as a god-sent opportunity to swell their balance sheet by a factor of 50 times in barely less than a year with no risk to themselves and 100 per cent risk to the taxpayer," Agnew said.

These comments, which Starling has admitted to asking not to be published on the website of the event organisers, led to a ferocious war of words between Agnew and an equally forthright Boden. In a letter seen by *The Times*, she described the former anti-fraud minister as a "public school-educated landed gentleman" who had "made a fortune from offshore outsourcing" as she hinted at legal action over what she called his "wild accusations" about the bank's alleged failures to stop pandemic fraud.

Boden further accused the former minister of criticising the bank to "exculpate yourself from the responsibilities that you accepted when you took the job as a minister".

Agnew fired back that he had "no plans to withdraw my comments until I can see some data that puts my mind to rest". He has declined to comment on Starling's fraud figures, but is said to feel vindicated.

Starling's position is that Agnew's narrative is a too simplistic reading of the runes, which it describes as "totally and utterly wrong". It argues that direct comparisons between it and other lenders are difficult, citing limitations in the data and the different characteristics of each lender's customer base,

as it says the British Business Bank, which administered the scheme, has itself noted. Banks had to decide for themselves how to flag loans as potentially fraudulent.

It also says that a large proportion of its bounce back loan scheme customers were relatively "young" businesses, which have a higher probability of failing than more mature firms. A spokeswoman noted that many of the big banks had lent only, or primarily, to their existing customers with which they may already have had long-term relationships. They had taken on no, or very few, new business customers, unlike Starling, which had remained open for new business throughout.

The bank also denies failing to properly check the loans, saying that its fraud detection processes are "state of the art", and that it has introduced additional checks over the life of the scheme.

While it declined to comment directly on other banks' counter-fraud processes, it said that it had implemented the system for checking duplicate loans within days of its introduction, which it understood some other banks had taken months to do so. It also pointed to the fact that government-backed lending would make up a declining part of the company's portfolio over time.

The bounce back loan row is likely to continue, as the government and banks try to claw back some of the money claimed from the business lifeline to fund gambling sprees, watches and cars.

Meanwhile, Agnew hopes that if nothing else, as a new round of large-scale government spending looms amid Liz Truss's efforts to tackle the energy crisis, the scandal over energy loans has had one effect. "Hopefully, lenders and the government will begin to put some proper investment into counter-fraud measures now," he said last week.

**£1.6bn**

Size of Starling's bounce back loan book

**5.8%**

Proportion of bounce back loans at Starling thought to be fraudulent

**£47bn**

Total amount of loans issued by all lenders under the scheme

## Bank delays interest rates decision after Queen's death

Mehreen Khan Economics Editor

The Bank of England has postponed next week's meeting of its monetary policy committee, which had been widely expected to raise interest rates.

The Bank said that the September meeting would be postponed for a week to respect the period of national mourning after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. The decision will be announced on September 22.

The Bank said it would also delay a planned corporate bond sale by a week.

In addition, the Office for National Statistics has delayed a release of data on Covid-19 infections, which had been due to be published yesterday, to Monday.

Money markets have pared back expectations for a bumper Bank interest rate rise of 75 basis points this month and are now expecting one of 50 basis points, after a similar increase last month. It would mark the seventh consecutive tightening of monetary policy since December last year.

The MPC's decision will not be followed by a press conference or accompanied by fresh growth and inflation forecasts, as had been scheduled.

Toby Nangle, a former fund manager at Columbia Threadneedle, said the Bank's decision to delay the committee's meeting was a mistake. "Running



Kwasi Kwarteng's preparations for a "mini-budget" may have to wait

the wrong macroeconomic policy for a week is not an act of respect," he said.

Delaying the meeting had raised the risk that the interest rate decision could coincide with a planned "mini-budget" by Kwasi Kwarteng, the chancellor, expected this month, but the Queen's death has forced all parliamentary business to be delayed. The new government is due to announce that the cost of an emergency energy price cap could reach £150 billion.

The nine-strong MPC has insisted that its members are committed to bringing inflation back to the target of 2 per cent, although splits remain over the pace and extent of monetary tightening. Catherine Mann, a hawk, has said the Bank should act forcefully to prevent inflation expectations from spiralling; Silvana Tenreyro, an external member of the MPC, said she favoured a more gradual approach to raising rates, hinting she would vote in favour of a slower 25-basis-point move.

Before announcing the delay, the Bank said that banknotes featuring a portrait of the Queen would continue to be legal tender. A further announcement regarding notes will be made once the period of mourning has been observed. Elizabeth II was the first monarch to feature on Bank of England banknotes.

The London Stock Exchange opened as normal yesterday and will observe regular trading hours during the official mourning period. It will observe any forthcoming bank holiday.

Andrew Bailey, the Bank's governor, said: "It was with profound sadness that I learnt of the death of Her Majesty the Queen. On behalf of everyone at the Bank, I would like to pass on my deepest condolences to the royal family."

## Computacenter profits adjust to a post-Covid world

Katie Prescott

Profits at Computacenter fell short of City forecasts yesterday as it continued to adjust to the post-Covid landscape.

Shares in the computer services supplier tumbled by more than 11 per cent after it said that pre-tax profits for the first half of the year had fallen by 6 per cent to £108 million. Investors were helped, though, by its decision to raise the interim dividend to 22p a share, up from 17p last year.

Revenues from its British business declined by 7 per cent to £654 million, mainly because of reduced demand from its technology sourcing division, which had been a strong driver of growth through the lockdowns.

While it reported "pleasing growth" in its higher-margin data centre business, a rapidly expanding market, it was

not enough to make up for the other part of the business.

As its consultants are travelling once again, their billable hours have reduced with the added commuting time. Wages rose by about 5 per cent, which knocked the narrow profit margin.

Computacenter was founded in 1981 by Sir Peter Ogden and Sir Philip Hulme. It is one of Britain's largest independent suppliers of computers and IT services, as well as of cloud and cybersecurity services. Based in Hatfield, Hertfordshire, it was listed in 1998 and is a constituent of the FTSE 250. Its largest operations are in Britain, France and Germany. It has been helped by customers increasing their investment in hardware and services during the pandemic shift to working from home.

Supply chain issues continue to affect the company. It cannot get the parts it requires and worried customers are ordering equipment far in advance of their needs, forcing Computacenter to hold more stock in its warehouses. It is still "somewhat affected" by supply shortages in networking IT equipment and it said yesterday that some orders were being "substantially delayed or only partly fulfilled".

Mike Norris, 60, the chief executive, said he was not concerned. "In almost all cases, there is a guaranteed sale on the inventory items," he said. "The continuing strength of our balance sheet gives us a significant competitive advantage in being able to support our customers' requirements. How this will unravel as customers get used to the freeing up of supply remains to be seen."

He added that the biggest effects of Covid-19 were now behind the business: "We believe current market

conditions are the new normal. Our customers' commitment to investment in technology feels extremely robust, despite well-publicised and difficult economic conditions around the world. This gives us confidence for 2023 and beyond."

The company said that spending by public sector customers had fallen back to normal pre-lockdown levels, while the private sector was spending more as employees returned to offices.

Analysts at Megabuyte, the technology sector analysis provider, were surprised by the profits figure. "Clearly, supply chain constraints are still causing havoc even for the largest resellers, while wage inflation and the return of normal costs are providing a tough comparable," they said.

Computacenter shares closed down 11.4 per cent, or 282p at £21.82 last night.

## Business

# Executive who put Landsec on firmer ground heads for exit

Arthi Nachiappan

Colette O'Shea will step down as the chief operating officer of Britain's biggest landlord now that the role is "no longer critical" to its plans for growth.

Landsec said that O'Shea, 54, who joined the company in 2003 and took over as chief operating officer in 2020, had supported its chief executive, Mark Allan, 50, in his plans to expand by establishing



Colette O'Shea started at the company 19 years ago

new ways of working since the onset of the pandemic.

"As this strategy enters its next phase, there will be an increased emphasis on operational autonomy within business units, meaning the role of COO is no longer critical to its operations," the company said. O'Shea, who

previously was head of estates at the Mercers' Company, will leave her role in March.

Allan, who took over as chief executive in April 2020, said few people had "done more to reshape our business, and with it, the City of London", adding: "I am immensely grateful for all the support she has shown me, particularly as I joined at the start of the pandemic, which she helped us to navigate with typical clarity and compassion."

Land Securities, which styles itself as

Landsec, owns a £12 billion portfolio of shopping centres, offices and leisure complexes around the country.

The company's shares have dropped by more than a third since the start of the pandemic, when landlords were banned from evicting tenants that did not pay their rents. However, it is still a constituent of the FTSE 100 with a market valuation of about £4.7 billion.

The company's holdings in central London, which include the Piccadilly Lights as well as office buildings, make

up more than half of its portfolio. Shopping centres and outlets, including Trinity Leeds and Westgate Oxford, account for 16 per cent.

The level of vacancies in London has remained high since Covid, with nearly 10 per cent of office sites unused because of the rise of flexible working. About 4 per cent of Landsec-owned offices in London are vacant.

Shares in the property company rose by 6½p, or 1 per cent, to close at 635p yesterday.

# Superbear seer of Wall Street is still in the risk game

Patrick Hosking Financial Editor

The man who argues that stock markets could be heading for a dive as severe as the 1929-32 Wall Street crash cannot be accused of being timid about his own investments. Not for him the conventional havens of gold or US treasuries: Jeremy Grantham, Wall Street's resident "superbear", has 75 per cent of the portfolio in his \$1.5 billion charitable foundation allocated to one of the riskiest asset classes of all: early stage venture capital.

It is, he concedes, "irreducibly aggressive". Most of all the wealth that Grantham, passionate environmentalist, has created has now been ploughed into venture capital, in particular carbon sequestration projects. But a chunk of the foundation's assets also has been put to work short-selling the Nasdaq, the American market for technology stocks, and betting against high-yield bonds.

That sounds more like vintage Grantham, who over the years has gained a reputation for spotting future crashes.

Now he believes that we are in the early stages of the mother of all asset price collapses. Last week he wrote in a report that the recovery in share prices over the summer was "eerily similar" to the so-called suckers' rally of 1929-30. That was when Wall Street delivered a six-month rebound after the crash of September and October 1929, only to dive much, much further again in the following two years, finally bottoming out in 1932. More money was lost in that second phase.

Grantham, 83, who was born in

Britain, is the G in GMO, the firm in Boston, Massachusetts, that he co-founded in 1977 and that now manages \$60 billion on behalf of investors. He no longer directly runs GMO client money, but still publishes research under its banner.

He is well known for his bearish stance and his argument that shares, bonds and property have become hugely overvalued. Last year he declared that markets were in an "epic bubble" characterised by "extreme overvaluation, explosive price increases, frenzied issuance and hysterically speculative investor behaviour", citing the rise of cryptoassets, "meme stocks" and blank-cheque companies as evidence. The world, he said, was in "one of the great bubbles of financial history, right along with the South Sea bubble, 1929 and 2000 [when tech stocks crashed]."

Recent papers by him have had apocalyptic titles, such as *Let the Wild Rumpus Begin*. Last week's was called *Entering the Superbubble's Final Act*.

His critics argue that he is a "permabear", usually far too gloomy. Although he has successfully foretold asset price reversals, including the Japanese property implosion of 1989 and the crash of 2000, by staying permanently negative, they say, he is bound to be right sometimes, like a stopped clock.

That's rubbish, Grantham counters. He points out that he urged clients to buy stocks in March 2009, timing almost to the day the moment when share markets began their huge rally after the banking crisis. That month he published a paper, *Reinvesting When Terrified*.

The problem, he argues, is not that he



Jeremy Grantham, 83, with his wife, Hannelore, at a gala for conservation causes

is a permabear; it is that most professionals in the financial markets are "permabulls", name-checking big investment banks such as Goldman Sachs and UBS as the biggest culprits.

"They loathe us and try to lower our influence by calling us permabears. They outnumber us ten to one."

It makes perfect commercial sense for them to be always bullish, he argues, because they are not punished when bear markets hit and their clients lose money. End-investors tend to be more unforgiving when they miss out on bull markets because money managers are

more cautious than when they "go over the cliff" with everyone else in bear markets. Then, he says, they go "catastrophic" and are "paralysed" and don't seem to mind nearly as much.

Grantham first became seriously interested in bubbles when technology stocks began climbing steeply in early 1998. The US market's price-earnings ratio, a traditional measure of the expensiveness of stocks, was higher than it had been immediately before the 1929 crash. It was a talismanic moment. "I figured that ... it must be the end of the world." He told clients that stocks were

overpriced and to sell. Then he got "a lot of pain from them" as stocks rose for another two years. "We lost a tonne of business and I got lots and lots of time to study 1929."

He ended up being right, of course, when the tech bust came in 2000. Did any of his clients say sorry for doubting him? Very few. "There was one who managed to spit out, through clenched teeth, 'Jeremy, you were right.' But he didn't bring any money back."

Newer clients, did. "Others thought, 'These were good guys. They stood their ground.' They came flooding in like you would not imagine. Our book of business went up four times in three years."

Grantham believes there is much more stock market pain to come, in addition to the 17 per cent decline in the S&P 500 since its near-4,800 peak in January this year. Since then, there has been the Ukraine invasion, the energy crisis and Covid in China.

The first phase of this bear market was about investors putting lower multiples on companies; the second phase will be as those companies make smaller profits because of the tougher macro-economic climate. The fundamentals are now "in ragged disarray".

What would be fair value for the S&P? About 3,000 in Grantham's view, which would require it to fall by another 33 per cent. Indeed, it might go further, as markets tend to overshoot in both directions. And that's with the benefit of inflation; the real-terms fall would be more.

His gloom extends to the UK market, which, although "pretty cheap" compared with Wall Street, will suffer more because of "Brexit and incompetence". Whose incompetence? He won't say.

Grantham was born in Hertfordshire, studied at Sheffield University and once worked for Royal Dutch Shell as an economist. He has a CBE for his philanthropic work on climate change.

Does he ever think the financial markets will change, learn from past bubbles and get less intoxicated in bull phases? "I've thought about that for 30 years, maybe longer, and I've abandoned any realistic hope. Please understand the commercial imperative of the [investment industry] advice you're surrounded by: it will always be foolish."

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Asos raises sales alarm

during the last financial year, which has resulted in an increase in discounting and weakened gross margins, Malek said. Reversing that over the coming year could increase full-price sales and "they could have a better control over profitability because they're planning for lower growth".

Shares in London-listed retailers have slumped since the start of this year, with the FTSE 350 General Retailers Index down by 33 per cent. Asos is the FTSE 250's biggest faller since the start of this year, with the shares having lost almost 71 per cent of their value during that period.

Retailers are "looking into the so-called golden quarter, the Christmas period," Pritchard said, "and most will be thinking that trading is likely to be difficult".

## Cap on bills eases worry over recession

### Behind the story

**M**easures to cap household energy bills for two years should help to prop up consumer spending and raise hopes that the economy can avoid a recession this winter (Mehreen Khan writes).

An emergency energy

price cap of £2,500 for the average household will help to cushion the blow for consumers, who were on course to suffer an unprecedented two-year drop in annual real incomes caused by record inflation.

The energy price cap will ensure that some households do not have to use their savings to pay bills. Energy bills had been forecast to rise above £6,000 by spring next year, hitting the poorest hardest. The worst-off will still have to tighten their belts as the price cap will disproportionately benefit richer households with

higher energy use. Estimates from Pantheon Macroeconomics, the consultancy, show the average household will get an 0.8 per cent boost to disposable income in the third quarter of this year, when the cap kicks in. That will help to reverse a fall of about a third in real earnings suffered in the three months to June.

The resulting decline in the headline inflation rate from the price cap and a projected spending injection for the economy "looks strong enough to ensure that a recession will be narrowly avoided",

Samuel Tombs, at Pantheon, said.

Figures from the Office for National Statistics next week will reveal the state of people's spending habits as petrol prices eased but headline inflation reached 10.1 per cent in July. Economists expect consumers to have pulled back their spending after a resilient set of retail sales figures over the summer. Month-on-month retail sales (excluding fuel) are due to have dipped by 0.7 per cent in July, according to economists polled by Reuters.

Shoppers have cut back

on buying clothes and other discretionary items amid rising inflation. Figures from Barclaycard this week showed a 1.9 per cent drop in card spending between July and August, but at restaurants and bars card sales rose by 6.6 per cent.

The British Retail Consortium warned this month that consumer habits "could signal the start of shoppers pulling back from non-essential spending". That trend may never materialise, as households will get a boost from a £400 energy bill rebate and the forthcoming price cap from October 1.

# Dominic O'Connell

Truss's energy subsidy is a blank cheque until gas prices settle down

**Junkets for civil servants should normally be discouraged, but perhaps an exception could be made this November.** Madelaine McTernan, the former Credit Suisse banker who has been made head of Liz Truss's new energy taskforce, should be sent to the football World Cup in Qatar.

If she wants, she can go to a few football games, but the real job would be to spend some time in the north of the Gulf state, looking at the giant gasfields that have made Qatar ridiculously rich.

From there, McTernan should continue her sporting tour with a trip to the United States. She should be able to make the Houston Texans' home game against the Cleveland Browns on December 4. Again, the game doesn't much matter, but she might be able to shooze some important shale gas executives in the corporate boxes.

McTernan's old job was running the vaccine taskforce. In her new role, she could regard the Qataris and the American shale bosses as AstraZeneca, Pfizer and Moderna rolled into one. Qatar and the US are the key players in the production of liquefied natural gas, which in the past 18 months has become the hottest property in energy. Despite all the noise about an end to the ban on fracking and the issuing of new licences for exploration in the North Sea (and the remarkable absence of any push on home insulation or energy conservation), there is unlikely to be a big jump in domestic gas production in the next five years, certainly not of a large enough scale to make a dent in world gas prices, which in the end are what we pay.

Analysts and traders who track the gas market say that supply will be extremely tight for the next couple of years at least. Chris Wheaton, an oil and gas analyst at Stifel, the investment firm, who was among the first to sound a warning about the likely scale of energy shortages, pointed out on Times Radio this week that gas prices had been elevated even before Russia curtailed its supply. The post-pandemic recovery of Asian economies, a temporary slowing of US shale gas production and a reduction in the number of coal-fired and nuclear-powered plants in



operation meant that demand for gas was high. Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the steady restriction of gas supplies to Europe have made the situation much worse.

Wheaton reckons Europe's plan to cut gas consumption by 15 per cent this winter is nowhere near enough. Unless it can get to 25 per cent, factories will be forced to shut and there could be domestic power cuts. The first part is already happening. The chief executives of Europe's zinc and aluminium producers wrote to the European Commission last week saying that they had already cut production by half and faced an "existential threat" if prices stayed at present levels.

It is not only a problem for Europe. In recent months UK gas prices have

(at times) lagged behind those on the Continent because we have the terminals to take LNG ships. Europe, which relied on Russian pipelines, does not, although they are building them quickly. Europe does, however, have big gas storage reservoirs to draw on over the winter, which Britain does not. The competition for LNG cargoes will get fiercer. "We think the UK is at particular risk of a spike in gas prices this winter," is how Wheaton put it.

The icing on the cake is that things might get worse before they get better. If Russia keeps the taps turned off, the big eurozone economies will not be able to refill their storage tanks next summer. That will mean even more acute shortages the following winter. Could new supplies of gas arrive to



save the day? They will, but not for a couple of years.

Qatar already accounts for about a quarter of the world's production of LNG and this year it overtook the US as the world's biggest exporter. The gas comes from the enormous North Field, which lies offshore beneath the Persian Gulf and is about as big as Qatar itself. The government recently awarded contracts for the construction of six new processing plants — "trains", as they are called in the oil and gas industry — so that it can produce even more. And not merely a bit more: eventually the North Field Expansion project will take Qatar's annual output from 77 million tonnes a year to 125 million.

Unfortunately, this extra gas will not start to hit the world market until early 2026, if everything runs to timetable. In the meantime, there should be gains from other producers: in the past America's shale industry has shown itself able to increase production quickly. The International Energy Agency forecasts that perhaps another 70 million tonnes could arrive over the next three years.

The timing is hardly ideal for Liz Truss. Her commitment to subsidising energy bills leaves the government with an open-ended liability. The final size of the cheque depends on the UK securing gas at the right price. McTernan needs to pack her suitcase.

**PS**  
The departure of Grant Shapps as transport secretary comes as service on some lines, notably Avanti West Coast, which runs intercity trains from London to Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow, has deteriorated badly. Drivers are not working overtime, which has shredded the schedule. On top of that there is a rolling programme of national strikes that affects nearly all other lines. Shapps's successor, Anne-Marie Trevelyan, faces something of a Catch 22: the industry is short of the cash to pay drivers more because passengers have not returned to pre-pandemic levels as quickly as hoped; yet the longer the strikes continue, the longer passengers will stay away.

**Dominic O'Connell is business presenter for Times Radio**

## Fall in real wages one of highest in the OECD

**Arthi Nachiappan**  
Economics Correspondent

Britain has suffered one of biggest drops in the real value of wages among members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Real pay, which is the value of incomes after adjusting for the impact of inflation, is on course to fall by 2.9 per cent from 2021 to 2022, compared with an average of 2.3 per cent across the bloc of 38 countries.

The figures from the OECD showed that during the pandemic the UK suffered one of the biggest declines in the rate of employment among the members of the population with the least education qualifications. The rise in economic inactivity, when a worker is neither working nor looking for a job, among those with lower educational qualifications was one of the highest recorded.

The UK was one of a "handful" of countries in which employment among workers aged 55 or over was still below pre-crisis levels at the start of the year, the organisation said. Hundreds of thousands of older workers left the labour market in Britain during the pandemic.

The gap in employment rates between white people and people of ethnic minority backgrounds has widened by 0.5 percentage points since the start of 2019. The trend was recorded in several countries. In the six largest European countries, the impact of rises in food and energy prices was 50 per cent higher for the poorest fifth of people than for the richest.

Inflation, which hit a 40-year high of 10.1 per cent in July, is at more than 15 per cent for the poorest people, three times the level among the richest, according to analysis by the International Monetary Fund. This is the second most unequal rise in the cost of living of any European country.

Economists at Goldman Sachs said inflation could exceed 20 per cent in January before the announcement of the new energy bills support package on Thursday, which could shave several percentage points off the headline rate.

Mathias Cormann, the OECD secretary-general, said: "Despite widespread labour shortages, real wages growth is not keeping pace with the current high rates of inflation. Governments should implement targeted and means-tested measures to temporarily support the poorest households."

## Business

# Whisper is Roblox has plans for virtual update

Katie Prescott

Singing, smiling and whispering to your friends will soon be possible on Roblox, the three-dimensional gaming platform popular with teenagers and younger children.

At its key annual developer conference, a two-day event in San Francisco aimed at the 12 million people who create the games on its forum, Roblox said it was introducing real speech for the over-13s so that their avatars — the online versions of themselves — could talk to one another as they would in the real world.

Manuel Bronstein, its chief product officer, said: "It uses proximity-based technology. If you're close to me, I will hear what you're saying. If you're farther out and I want to hear what you're saying, you can yell and scream; if you whisper softly, I will hear that." Developers also will be able to animate the faces of its 52 million daily users' characters so that they can show emotion, frown or wink.

"The next step is pairing that with real-time communication — so as I'm chatting with you, my avatar's face moves so you see my real expression," Bronstein said.

Roblox allows its users to design and build their own games, supported by a team of professionals and which anyone else can play. There are more than 40 million games to choose from on the platform, from adopting a virtual pet or living in a fantasy castle to multiplayer combat challenges and quizzes.

Developers were the "lifeblood" of the Roblox business model, Bronstein said. It operates a revenue-sharing

model and last year they earned \$538.3 million from the platform. The average age of top-earning developers is 25 and the vast majority are over 18.

The company is fighting back against slowing user growth and falling revenues with a range of announcements intended to boost advertising and improve its gamers' experience. A new "immersive advertising system" to be unveiled this weekend will provide more revenue streams, so brands can pay to advertise on virtual billboards and can build pop-up shops and portals to take users into their own worlds within games.

The likes of Tommy Hilfiger, Spotify and Gucci use Roblox to advertise and sell real and virtual items. The National Gallery and Wimbledon are among those to have made games and hosted events in the Roblox world. Users can dress their virtual selves in virtual designer clothing, bought with Robux, a virtual currency.

Roblox was listed on the New York Stock Exchange in March last year. Its shares began trading at \$64.50 and yesterday stood at \$44.32, up almost 6 per cent in morning trading.

It grew exponentially during the pandemic, when children were stuck at home. There was a drop-off as lockdowns eased and revenue missed expectations in its most recent results. The average amount it made per daily user was \$12.25, down by a fifth from the year before. For the three months to June 30, it reported a net loss of \$176.4 million, an increase on a reverse of \$140.1 million the year before.

The age of its fanbase is shifting. Over-13s now make up more than half



Users of Roblox's "superstar galaxy" can create their own customisable pop star

of its user base, with its fastest-growing demographic the 17-to-24 bracket.

Given the age range of the users on Roblox, safety has been an issue. The real-voice chat function will make policing this virtual playground even more complex. Bronstein said the company was introducing age verification so that those using it would have to prove they were 13.

Roblox is also giving parents more information about what their children

are downloading and accessing, introducing new age guidance for games.

Alongside Minecraft, Roblox is one of the only truly functional versions of what is often called the metaverse, viewed as the next iteration of the internet, where you will be able to do everything from socialising to learning and shopping. David Baszucki, the founder and chief executive of Roblox, recently described it as a "utility that people will use in their daily lives".

# There is light over the horizon, analysts tell Darktrace investors

Jessica Newman Market report



It's hardly been the best week for Darktrace, the cybersecurity company whose shares slumped by a third on Thursday, but clients of Jefferies were told to look beyond the inevitable "short-term volatility" resulting from Thoma Bravo, the private equity fund, saying that it would not proceed with a potential takeover bid. In fact, Charles Brennan, an analyst at the bank, reckons it's the perfect time to take a punt on the stock as he resumed coverage of the company with a "buy" recommendation.

Ending the bid process should "enable investors to focus on the core fundamentals of a business executing well, with leading technology in a very attractive end market", he said.

Darktrace's full-year results were, as a whole, pretty positive. It said that customer numbers grew by 32 per cent last year, while revenues were up 46 per cent to \$415.5 million.

Sales fell slightly short of the \$417 million guidance because of a \$3.8 million restatement relating to 2021 revenues, though Brennan said that "it should be no cause for concern". The shares rose 42 1/4p, or 12.5 per cent, to 379 1/4p.

London's wider stock market ended a turbulent week on a high thanks to

a rally among heavyweight miners. The FTSE 100 was up another 89.01 points, or 1.2 per cent, to 7,351.07, meaning the index closed the session 69.88 points, or 1 per cent, higher than where it began on Monday. The FTSE 250 rose a further 309.74 points, or 1.6 per cent, to 19,188.03; over the week it gained 334.81 points, or 1.8 per cent.

Anglo American charged towards the top of the FTSE 100, rising 132p, or 4.7 per cent, to £29.26 as metals prices strengthened after an unexpected cooling of Chinese inflation, as well as gaining support from a weaker dollar and supply concerns. Antofagasta, the world's biggest copper miner, advanced 44 1/2p, or 3.9 per cent, to £11.95; Glencore, the commodities trader, gained 17 1/4p,

or 3.7 per cent, to 488 1/2p; and Fresnillo added 21p, or 3 per cent, to 728 1/2p. Stronger crude prices gave a leg up to BP, which rose respectively by 7 1/2p, or 1.8 per cent, to 450 1/2p and Shell, up 30p, or 1.3 per cent, at £23.

Even though the Bank of England has opted to postpone next week's meeting of its monetary policy committee, investors continued to pile into Standard Chartered, which rose 21 1/2p, or 3.6 per cent, to 614 1/2p over the prospects of higher interest rates.

TI Fluid Systems was also in demand, rising 6 1/2p, or 4.8 per cent, to 149p after Jefferies tipped its clients to buy the car parts maker's shares. "Uncertainty is now sufficiently priced in," it said, adding that the company was likely to deliver a much better second-half performance assisted by momentum in bookings in Europe and North America.

Bridgepoint dropped 44 1/2p, or 14.6 per cent, to 259p. Some traders in

the City suspect the fall is a result of the FTSE Russell, the index provider and subsidiary of the London Stock Exchange Group, deciding not to increase the weighting of the private equity group's shares in its indices.

Elsewhere, shares in Helical, which owns and develops offices in the

## Wall Street report

Stocks broke a three-week losing streak as investors reacted to talk that the rate of inflation is about to slow. The Dow Jones industrial average closed on 32,151.71, up 377.19, or 1.2 per cent on the day and ending 2.7 ahead over the week.

centre of London, bounced off their lowest level in more than a year to rise 23p, or 6.7 per cent, to 361 1/2p — all thanks to Richard Cotton, its independent non-executive director, snapping up nearly £51,000 of shares in the company.

Shares in Best of the Best, an Aim-listed online gambling company known for running competitions to win luxury cars in airport terminals and shopping centres, rose by 10p, or 2.3 per cent, to 450p after it was disclosed that Globe Invest, the family office of Teddy Sagi, Playtech's founder, intends to buy a 29.9 per cent stake in the company.

## Frasers Group grabs place in the FTSE 100

Mike Ashley's Frasers Group will be promoted to the FTSE 100 index of leading shares next week. The retailer, which owns Sports Direct, House of Fraser and Flannels, will join the index on September 13, replacing Meggitt, the defence manufacturer that is being taken over by Parker Hannifin, the American engineering and aerospace company. Frasers, formerly known as Sports Direct International, was demoted from the FTSE 100 in March 2016 and until now had not returned. It has been a rare bright spot among British retail stocks this year, with the company's shares jumping by 27 per cent in July after it gave an upbeat profit outlook. Replacing Frasers in the FTSE 250 group of companies will be WAG Payment Solutions, also known as Eurowag, which processes toll and fuel payments for lorries around Europe. It was listed a year ago, pricing its float at 150p per share. The stock has fallen 37 per cent since then. The index changes will happen on Tuesday.

## Appeal court backs Citi over \$500m wire error

An appeal court in the United States has rejected a ruling that Revlon, the make-up brand, could keep \$504 million that Citigroup mistakenly wired to it in 2020. Reversing a lower court ruling, the 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan said it was improper to give the brand a "huge windfall" by letting it keep Citigroup's money and that it had been on notice that the transfer was a mistake. The case highlighted the risks in a banking industry that wires an estimated \$5.4 trillion each day. Jane Fraser, the Citi chief executive, called it a "massive unforced error". The lender said the "ruling reaffirms our long-held belief that these mistakenly transferred funds should be returned as a matter of law, as well as ethics". The company added: "While Citi has taken steps to reduce the likelihood of such an error in the future, the decision provides welcome stability and upholds the concept of co-operation needed for a well-functioning syndicated lending market."

## Rio's Mongolian mine move faces legal action

Rio Tinto's move to take control of a huge copper mine in Mongolia suffered a setback when an American hedge fund said it opposed the deal and was considering legal action. Rio agreed a \$3.3 billion deal this month to acquire Turquoise Hill Resources, the Canadian company that owns 66 per cent of the Oyu Tolgoi project. However, Pentwater Capital, one of Turquoise's biggest shareholders, said that the C\$43-a-share price Rio had offered "significantly undervalues" the Montreal-based group's common stock. Pentwater said it had lifted its stake in Turquoise to 11.67 per cent and was "evaluating its legal alternatives". It said these included "the possible exercise of dissent rights or other legal action". Rio already owns 51 per cent of Turquoise, but wants complete ownership. It needs more than half of minority investors in Turquoise to approve its offer for the acquisition to proceed.

### The day's biggest movers

Company	Change
National Express Investors move in after recent weakness	12.9%
Darktrace Claws back some losses	12.5%
Ferrexpo Commodity prices rise	7.1%
Centrica Extends gains	5%
Anglo American Strong commodity prices	4.7%
Telecom Plus Follow-through selling	-1.3%
Bytes Technology Positive sentiment grinds to a halt	-2%
Vistry Profit-taking	-2.5%
Computacenter Disappointing half-year results	-11.5%
Bridgepoint FTSE Russell not increasing weighting of the shares in its indices	-14.6%

# The numbers are adding up nicely as Ninety One relishes life on its own

The head of the listed fund manager is guiding the business in some turbulent times, reports Ben Martin

**H**endrik du Toit traces his interest in financial markets back to his youth. When he was a teenager in South Africa, he would read the share prices from the newspaper to a neighbour who was a retired stockbroker. "He would say why he was buying or selling something. I really enjoyed that."

That early introduction to the world of trading stood him in good stead. Now 60, du Toit is the boss of Ninety One, one of the leading fund management companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. Having founded it 31 years ago as the asset management division of Investec, the Anglo-South African bank, he has run the business ever since, leading it through its demerger from Investec two years ago in a deal that transformed the fund manager into an independent company.

The spin-off from Investec took place at the start of the pandemic in March 2020, but, despite the stock market volatility sparked by the emergence of Covid-19, Ninety One has prospered since striking out on its own. Its share price has risen 55 per cent to 200p from its debut at 135p to give the group a market value of £1.8 billion. Last year's pre-tax profits were a record £267 million. Assets under management at the company, which is based in London and Cape Town, reached a peak of £143.9 billion at the end of March this year — before falling back to £134.9 billion three months later amid a market sell-off driven by fears about the economy.

Like other active managers, who pick and choose investments rather than passively tracking indices, Ninety One's investment professionals now face the challenge of navigating an increasingly uncertain economic outlook as inflation in Britain, the United States and Europe soars. "You always think it's the worst, but, as markets go, and this is particularly relevant to active managers, these are extremely difficult markets in which to apply systematic investment processes because you get these wild macro-driven swings in expectations."

Inflation is being driven higher by soaring energy prices, which have surged after Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Prices have risen as Moscow has progressively reduced gas supplies to Europe. This culminated last week in Russia's decision to shut down its gas pipeline to Germany in a move that many believe is retaliation for the economic sanctions that have been imposed by the West on Moscow in response to its war.

Du Toit, who in a very different era experienced the impact of sanctions on South Africa, believes that politicians could have planned more carefully before waging financial warfare on Russia. "Morally, I don't criticise any western politician in



Hendrik du Toit's journey has taken him from Cape Town, inset, to London and a place at the top table of the listed fund management sector with Ninety One

## Q&A

**Who is your mentor?**  
I don't have one mentor. My father died when I was 14 and I made it my business to learn from what I call role models, or older people, or people with wisdom.  
**Does money motivate you?**  
Money's useful, but if I was driven by money I'd probably be doing other things and I would have monetised my career differently. I'm not one of those people who says money is irrelevant, but it's definitely not my prime motivator

**Which person do you most admire?**  
Nelson Mandela. What he achieved and stood for is so amazing. My other heroes are just very ordinary people, the teachers, the nurses, the mothers, the people who take life and the challenges of life and make something of it.  
**What does leadership mean to you?**  
Facilitating success and aligning people, not telling them where to go and preferably walking behind them rather than in front.  
**How do you relax?**  
When I'm on my mountain bike, when I'm in the bush

**CV**

**Age:** 60  
**Born:** Cape Town, South Africa  
**Education:** M.Com, economics, Stellenbosch; MPhil, economics and politics of development, University of Cambridge  
**Career:** 1988: investment analyst, Old Mutual; 1991: founder and chief executive, Investec Asset Management; 2018: joint chief executive, Investec Group; 2020-present: chief executive, Ninety One  
**Family:** married, two grown-up children

terms of expressing their abhorrence to what happened [in Ukraine]. Sometimes I think when you go into a fight, plan it carefully, make sure you can follow-through."

He is equally as willing to speak his mind when it comes to ESG — the environmental, social and governance standards that have become drivers of the increasingly popular trend for sustainable investment in the fund management industry in recent years as worries about climate change have grown. While many asset managers

have rushed to offer ESG-oriented funds to investors, there has been criticism that some are claiming green credentials to attract clients.

The debate became highly charged this year when Stuart Kirk, who was the head of responsible investing at HSBC Asset Management, gave a speech in which he claimed central bankers were trying to "out-hyperbole the next guy" on climate change risks. "Who cares if Miami is six metres underwater in 100 years?" he asked.

establishing contact with a then-banned ANC youth league.

"It wasn't unusual, many people did it, I'm no hero or anything — but I do believe you have to express your opinion when it matters. You can't be silent and you have to be willing to pay a cost."

The following year he arrived in Britain to study as a postgraduate at the University of Cambridge, just as Margaret Thatcher's Big Bang reforms were starting to turbocharge the City of London into an international financial centre. "It was this massive, positive energy, this global industry being created here, people from all over the world coming."

He already had a job waiting for him in South Africa at Old Mutual, the financial services conglomerate that had funded his undergraduate studies. He spent three years as an investment analyst there before his big break came: he was tapped by Investec to start an asset management business for the bank.

He was only 29 when he started Investec Asset Management and it was "madness ... I thought this business was just managing money. I didn't realise it was about getting money, compliance, it was about client service. But, you know, it was a fantastic journey."

In 2018 he became joint chief executive of the wider Investec group, when the decision was made to hive off the asset management business into a separate company. The demerger of the business, named Ninety One after the year it was founded, took place two and a half years ago.

The timing might have been better. The world was in turmoil. The coronavirus

outbreak was spreading rapidly worldwide and stock markets were in ferment. "A lot of people told us, 'Stop, you won't get the valuation.' I said, 'We're not selling anything, we're just reorganising the business. Whatever that price is now, the value will come out over time.'" As it is, du Toit and other senior managers and employees have been buyers of Ninety One's shares since the demerger through their Forty Two Point Two investment vehicle, which now owns a stake of more than 28 per cent in the company worth more than £500 million.

Du Toit says he would have preferred Ninety One to be a private business because of the "distractions" that come with being a publicly traded company. Would it be possible to take it private? "You can never say never." Meanwhile, Forty Two Point Two's shareholding is "creeping up". He argues, too, that having such a substantial stake demonstrates to other investors that the company's management has a vested interest in Ninety One's success. "We want our shareholders to know they are partnering with a management team which is more invested than them in the outcome. We're not short-term jockeys trying to skim off a bonus."



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**Why shouldn't I cash-in the value from my house?**  
Troubleshooter,  
Page 61



# Money

# Bonds, BAE and BP: what to buy in the age of Truss

Conservative prime ministers have enjoyed booms, but the latest leader faces tough times, says David Brenchley

The Conservatives may be the political party that has presided over the best share price gains over the past 50 years — but Liz Truss could be in for a tough stock market ride, experts say.

The FTSE all-share index of 597 large and medium-sized UK companies gained 10.5 per cent during Boris Johnson's three years at the helm, despite the pandemic and the cost of living crisis.

An average return of 3.27 per cent a year puts Johnson ninth of the ten prime ministers we have had since 1970 in terms of share price gains.

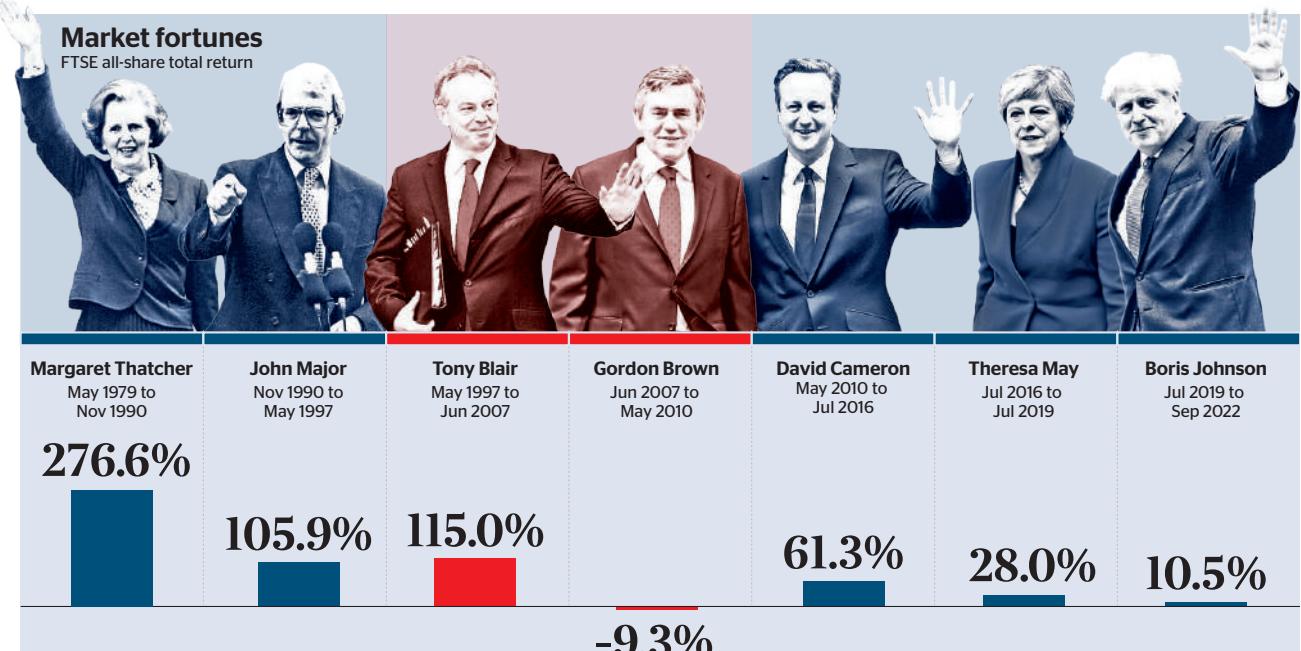
Gordon Brown was the only prime minister to oversee a share price loss, with the FTSE all-share declining 3.33 per cent a year on average during his leadership, which came at the height of the global financial crisis.

Since 1970, the FTSE all-share has gained an average 8.25 per cent a year under the Conservatives and 6.85 per cent a year under Labour, according to the wealth manager JM Finn. However, the biggest average annual returns — of 17.8 per cent — came under the Labour leader James Callaghan. His successor Margaret Thatcher is second with 12.14 per cent.

Truss has a maximum first term of 28 months ahead of her and will have to avoid lots of pitfalls if she's to do better than Brown. Even with the energy bill bailout announced on Thursday inflation and interest rates could keep rising, making mortgages more expensive.

Jack Summers from JM Finn said that Truss would be lucky if share prices made the kinds of gains managed under some of her predecessors given these challenges, let alone the war in Ukraine and the aftermath of Covid-19. He said: "We are facing incredibly challenging times. We don't know what Truss has planned but we do know that markets tend not to tolerate ambiguity for long."

Truss's capping of gas and electricity bills at £2,500 for average usage from October (a 27 per cent increase instead



Source: JM Finn

## Fund picks

• Dmitry Lipski from the platform Interactive Investor suggested **Diverse Income Trust**, which can pick dividend-paying stocks from all parts of the UK market, but has a bias to medium and small firms. Diverse Income is on a discount (meaning

its share price is below the value of its assets) of 7 per cent.

• For purer exposure to mid-caps, Thomas McMahon from the research firm Kepler Partners thinks that **JPMorgan Mid Cap** investment trust looks cheap. It is on a

discount of 14 per cent.

• Jack Summers from the wealth manager JM Finn suggested **Liontrust Special Situations, River & Mercantile UK Smaller Companies, Henderson Smaller Companies, Montanaro UK Income and Evenlode Income**.

of the 80 per cent rise originally proposed by the energy regulator Ofgem) could mean that inflation will peak in October at 11 per cent instead of 14.5 per cent in January as previously thought, according to Neil Shearing from the research firm Capital Economics.

The share prices of small and medium-sized UK companies have fallen on average by 28.6 per cent and 21.5 per

cent respectively so far in 2022. Large firms have done much better, but are still down 3.4 per cent, according to the data firm FE fundinfo.

Investors have dumped more than £5.5 billion of their investments in funds that invest in the shares of UK companies this year, according to the data provider Calastone.

However, there are opportunities for

brave investors. One could be in government bonds, said Ben Yearsley from Shore Financial Planning. Because interest rates will rise further, that time is not now (bond prices fall when interest rates rise). "At some point the Bank of England may have to cut rates in the face of a slowing economy," Yearsley said. He suggested investing in the **Vanguard UK Government Bond Index** fund if rates climb.

Truss's policies may help certain areas of the market. If the economy goes into recession the energy price cap freeze will make it much less severe than feared, said Susannah Streeter from the investment platform Hargreaves Lansdown. This, alongside rising interest rates, could benefit the high-street bank **Lloyds**.

She said that Truss's commitment to raise the defence budget to 3 per cent of GDP could boost the weapons maker **BAE Systems**. Truss's dislike of a windfall tax on the oil and gas sector could benefit **BP, Shell and Tullow Oil**.

Yearsley expects the push to increase home-grown energy and wean us off Russian gas will continue. Look for investment trusts such as **Foresight Solar and Downing Renewables & Infrastructure, or Time UK Infrastructure Income**, a portfolio of renewable energy and infrastructure trusts.

Smaller companies have felt the brunt of the stock market sell-off so far, but if Truss can get a handle on inflation, they should feel a reprieve.

Summers still thinks we should avoid stocks in firms that sell non-essential items such as furniture and luxury clothing, however. He prefers consumer staples such as toothpaste and booze.

Truss has inherited plenty of difficulties and it seems unlikely that the FTSE will get anywhere near to the average 12.14 per cent yearly leap enjoyed by her heroine Margaret Thatcher between 1979 and 1990. Still, share prices in some areas have already fallen sharply, reducing the potential for further losses and increasing potential returns.

## Keep giving us your money, failed supplier tells its old customers

A n energy supplier has been sending out emails to households demanding that they keep paying it — even though it has lost its licence and its customers.

UK Energy Incubator Hub, which supplied power under the Neo Energy and Northumbria Energy brands, was stripped of its licence to provide energy for multiple failures including not

responding to information requests by Ofgem, the energy regulator.

The company went into administration in July and its 3,000 customers were transferred to Octopus Energy under a "supplier of last resort" process overseen by Ofgem. Octopus was in touch with all affected customers asking them to cancel their direct debits and set one up with Octopus instead.

However, at the end of August Neo Energy customers received emails saying that although UK Energy Incubator Hub has ceased trading, its contract with Neo Energy "stays valid and has not been terminated". The email added that information on the Octopus website saying it is now supplying their energy is "factually incorrect".

The email also said "we strongly

advise... you should not set up any direct debits and terminate any you have set up to prevent you from overpaying to any party".

Neo Energy and UK Incubator Hub are owned by Oliver Friedrich, 47, who was a senior figure at Brilliant Energy, another failed supplier. Friedrich was also the secretary of Ure Energy, which had its supply licence revoked in 2019

after failing to pay more than £200,000 in green taxes.

Octopus Energy said: "We advise any customers contacted by anyone other than Octopus, especially when being asked for payment, to get in touch with us immediately."

Oliver Friedrich and Neo Energy were approached for comment.  
**Ali Hussain**



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## Money

# My insurance is up £400 — no one can tell me why

## Modern Money Imogen Tew

**P**ing. A notification from my bank, Monzo, pops up on my screen, informing me that a regular home insurance payment to Rias is about to be taken.

It's gone up £35.38 to £50. It's not just more expensive, but more than 230 per cent more expensive. Surely some mistake?

Sadly not. Our yearly premium has gone from £180 to about £600, even though nothing has changed: we've made no claims, no valuables have been added (my engagement ring is literally the reason we have insurance, and that is already on it) and as far as I know, there has been no increase in robberies or flood risk in my area.

Of course insurers aren't allowed to just jack up your premiums without telling you, so it turns out I had missed this crucial fact, which had been in a PDF attached to the email sent about my policy renewal. There were, of course, no figures contained in the main body of the text.

I had spotted the email but thought nothing of it — the last time the policy renewed it went from £14.57 a month to £15.24, so I had no reason to think that I would be charged three times as much as last year.

Hands up, I'm at fault for not



double-checking, but come on, if an insurer, or any company, is going to ramp up its costs so much then surely it should be more transparent?

The other question is why has the premium gone up so much?

My initial suspicion was that the insurer was misbehaving, pushing up the cost for an existing customer in the hope that they would get away with it because we are all too lazy to bother looking around for better deals.

That's called "price walking" and it's a trick that has worked in the insurance industry's favour for decades. But such loyalty penalties have been banned since the start of this year when the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), the City watchdog, ruled that car and home insurers couldn't offer different prices to new customers than they offered to equivalent existing ones.

So, I did what any responsible customer should do, and applied to take out Rias insurance as if I were a new customer, only to be surprised to find that Rias's quote was almost identical to my renewal price.

So I asked its chatbot. Unhelpfully it said that the reason my price had changed was "because of the difference in risk", but was unforthcoming about what exactly this difference was.

Time to talk to a human. Customer

services told me that the pricing is set by an underwriter, Ageas, rather than Rias, so he had no information on why the price had gone up. He explained that because Ageas could change how "risky" different aspects of a policy were, I was never going to get an answer.

In the end I was finally told that last year's premium had been wrong, (I had been paying too little) so this year's £50 quote was right.

All this underlines the inherent problem with the FCA's attempts to create a fairer market. It has merely underlined what many of us had supposed in the first place: that there is absolutely no clarity or consistency

**“**  
**Some customers are charged £50 for the luxury of signing up for a more expensive policy**

on how insurers set their pricing in the first place.

A look at social media or *The Times* inbox shows scores of baffled drivers and property owners experiencing the same dilemma. The consumer group Which? asked 14,000 people and found that 51 per cent of home insurance policyholders and 43 per cent of drivers were paying more than last year.

Some of this is inevitable in that if you can no longer get a discount for being a new customer somewhere then your policy cost is going to rise. But Which? found that many of those whose costs had gone up were staying

put, despite the price-walking ban. Like me, many would have asked why, only to receive some generic answer about underwriting risk.

Insurers and their underwriters are entitled to decide how much risk to take on. But why can't they be more transparent about their pricing — this information should be front and centre of all communications.

I've heard stories about car insurance premiums jumping from £250 to £340 a year, with the same customers then being charged a £50 "arrangement" fee for the luxury of signing up for a more expensive policy. When I checked my own policy I found that I was being charged a £20 "set-up fee", which seems odd considering that the policy was set up in August 2020 and nothing had changed.

There are other tricks to watch out for too.

Insurers can charge different prices depending on how you approach them — via phone, online or through a comparison site, for instance. Large insurance firms often sell through different trading names, so you could get a similar policy for a different price, even though it will actually be from the same company.

And insurers' prices can change from day to day, or even hour to hour, so a quote you get this week might be different to next.

Unfortunately for the apathetic among us — or those who do not click on PDF attachments — this all means that we need to do more work. The loyalty penalty ban was supposed to ensure that existing customers didn't have to pay more for sticking with their insurer, but all these other price tricks still mean that to do nothing is risky business.

I realised all this just in time. I cancelled my Rias policy, and managed to get it to drop the £35 cancellation fee, and found a new insurer with a premium almost as low as I paid last year.

It all goes to show that regulators can try to make insurers treat us better, but ultimately it's up to us to make sure that they do.

And if they don't, you just have to vote with your feet.



## That's energy sorted, now what about home loans?

### Comment

**James Coney**  
Money editor



#### So what about mortgages?

If we've got a bailout to help families with energy costs, perhaps we also need one for home loans?

I don't think that is a reality, but it's worth asking the question because this is the next area of the economy where warning lights are flashing. The real poser is what the government plans to do about it.

A middle-class mortgage shock looms over the nation like the dark clouds that have filled the skies most of this week. The historic low loan deals that buyers were blessed with for the past 12 years have been swept away by six Bank of England base rate rises so far this year.

The base rate is expected to rise 0.75 percentage points in two weeks, to 2.5 per cent. That could

mean people who are paying as little as 1 per cent on their mortgage now moving on to new deals at 4.25 per cent when their fix ends, or perhaps even higher.

Repayments on a £500,000 loan with a 25-year term would increase from £1,884 a month to £2,709. Or, put it this way, if you were a higher-rate taxpayer you would need to find an extra £17,600 of pay every year to meet your mortgage costs.

That's more than any energy bill rise, even for those living in six-bed draughty old country piles.

We're not really talking about this yet because all the focus, quite rightly, has been on the immediate harm to poorer households and businesses threatened by rising energy bills in October.

And while the energy price cap introduced by the prime minister this week won't solve the problem of the cost rises we have already had, and will still mean a rise in

October, it will at least stave off those even worse ones expected then and in January.

Part of the justification for providing help on energy is because of the desperate heating or eating choice that could have cost lives.

The other is that higher gas costs are the price of a war no one expected. But higher mortgage rates are also a consequence of this extraordinary scenario.

The largest contributor to inflation in July was electricity and gas, as well as petrol.

The reason interest rates have risen so far is not to stop the inflation that this is causing, but to stop future inflation from taking grip by causing a wage-price spiral (where workers demand ever-higher wages to combat rising prices). So in a way higher mortgage rates are a direct result of rising energy prices.

We won't see the consequence of this just yet because many of the low fixed-rate deals borrowers are

on will run until next year or 2025.

It will be a slow drip, drip, drip of people who suddenly find those homes that they stretched their incomes to the maximum to buy are no longer affordable.

Support is going to be needed in some way. At the moment banks are reporting no signs of distress among mortgage customers, but the wriggle room that many borrowers have in their finances is starting to be eroded, according to analysis by the banking lobby group UK Finance.

In the wake of the global financial crisis banks were told to be lenient to households struggling with repayments. It is one of the reasons why we did not have a huge numbers of repossessions.

But it did create a generation of buyers who became prisoners to one lender because they would not be accepted for a deal elsewhere.

We are going to need more tolerance from banks — possibly by letting more borrowers take out interest-only deals as a short-term measure to keep costs down.

A middle-class mortgage shock is coming.  
@jimconey

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### SPECIAL REPORT

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### PLUS

We took Dad in to help him cut costs

**£1,362**

rise in households' average yearly energy costs from April 2021 to October 2022

# How rate rises and property delays will lead to higher rents

Higher interest and more demand for loans are causing profitability problems for buy-to-let landlords, writes **Samantha Partington**

**A**lan Lai has a portfolio of buy-to-let properties to his name and considers himself an experienced investor. So when he decided to buy an off-plan apartment in Manchester to rent out, he was relieved to lock in a five-year fixed-rate mortgage at 2.79 per cent in October, before interest rates started rising.

Buying off-plan means pledging to purchase a property before it has been built, and usually means you can get a better deal. The lower price would help Lai, who lives in Surrey with his wife and two children, to maximise his rental returns.

But construction delays pushed back the completion date from January to March and then to May. Lai, 40, did not realise it, but he was at risk of losing his cheap rate.

Mortgage offers are valid for a set period, usually up to six months. But lenders are generally sympathetic when delays outside a borrower's control slow down an application and typically offer extensions that range from a week to four months.

"My offer expiry date was just a few days before the builder's completion date so I was quite relaxed about it," Lai said. "You're usually offered a short extension to your mortgage offer."

But when Lai requested an extension of less than a week, he was refused.

Not only would Lai have to start his mortgage application again, a process that could take months, but his 2.79 per cent rate would not be honoured. He was offered 3.84 per cent, which would cost him an extra £4,100 in interest over the five-year term.

"I'm really surprised that there was absolutely no wiggle room from the lender even though completion was just days away," Lai said.

Lai's valuation report expired at the



Alan Lai said that missing out on the cheaper loan would mean he would have to increase his flat's rent by £150 a month

same time as his mortgage offer. But instead of offering him the option to pay to have the valuation report double-checked, which is common practice, the lender — which he did not want to name — sent the application back to the start of the queue.

"It's frustrating," Lai said. "I thought lenders were supposed to allow you to extend your offer. Now some of the gains I stood to make by buying off-plan have been sacrificed."

Since Lai first agreed his mortgage the Bank of England has increased the base rate six times from 0.1 per cent to 1.75 per cent. Another increase is expected when the Bank's monetary policy committee meets on Thursday. This may mean that lenders are less inclined to honour older, lower mortgage offers if they expire.

Each increase brings more pain for

homeowners who are on a variable or tracker mortgage rate, as well as anyone looking to buy a property.

According to the data firm Moneyfacts, the average five-year fixed rate went from 3.18 per cent in October to 4.49 per cent in August. That rise adds £2,148 a year to repayments on a £250,000 loan.

A strict attitude from lenders has now become the norm, said Gavin Richardson, the managing director of the buy-to-let broker Mortgages for Business (MFB).

As recently as July, 95 per cent of the broker's offer extension requests were granted. Now only 25 per cent are successful.

"We have seen the death of mortgage extensions over the past six weeks," said Richardson. "Lenders no longer have any appetite to provide extensions in a

market where interest rates have started to move upwards again so fast."

At the same time, there is a huge log-jam at the conveyancing end of the process as landlords rush to remortgage. "This is leading to more offers expiring, costing landlords tens of thousands of pounds in some cases," Richardson said.

According to MFB, landlords being forced on to a more expensive deal because their mortgage offer has expired have to pay an average of £205.63 more every month. Over five years, that adds an extra £12,337 to payments.

"Buy-to-let properties are big investments," Richardson said. "Refusing to extend an offer when an investor is so near completion can lead to a great deal of stress and anger as profitability slips through their fingers."

In his ten years as a property investor,

Lai has owned 15 buy-to-let properties, and at present has three. He has never faced this issue before.

Lai said that when his purchase finally goes through he will increase the monthly rent on the flat from £950 to £1,100 as a result of the higher interest rate. Even after this, his profits will take a hit. "I've really felt the pressure this time because there have been so many rate changes, the new application has taken a long time to underwrite and the developer's sales team wants me to complete quickly," he said.

Rising interest rates and soaring house prices have led to a rush of property purchases this year as people try to get on the ladder, or climb it, before

“

The new deal will add £4,100 in interest over five years

homes become unaffordable. This has made the buying process slower, causing problems for buyers who risk losing cheap fixed rates as offers expire.

While banks and building societies — which have been quick to put up their rates after the Bank's increases — typically fund residential mortgages with deposits from their savers' accounts, buy-to-let loans work differently.

These mortgages are funded with money from capital markets, where the bank gets a pot of cash at a certain rate from an investor, which it can then lend out at the same interest rate. This should mean that buy-to-let lenders can keep their rates lower for longer after base rate hikes.

But that time has now run out, said Richardson.

"Rates have changed rapidly and base rate increases, like the 0.5 percentage point rise in August, spooked the money markets which have upped the cost of their funds."

"We're now going to see most buy-to-let lenders react as quickly as the high street banks when it comes to repricing mortgage deals."

## Call me now, taxman tells wealthy

**W**ealthy taxpayers are being invited to have a cosy chat with HM Revenue & Customs investigators before filing their tax return to "help prevent an error before it occurs".

Compliance officers are writing to up to 1,000 people with incomes of more than £200,000 or cash assets of at least £2 million, inviting them to have a "voluntary telephone call" to make sure that they declare the correct income in their 2021-22 tax return, which is due in paper by October 31 or online by January 31.

"If I can help prevent an error before it occurs, you will pay the correct tax at the right time, reducing the risk of incurring interest and penalties," a letter from a compliance manager reads.

"If you suspect I might take a different view on the tax treatment of a transaction or event, a conversation may

help me understand your point of view."

HMRC said the letters aren't "about catching people out, it's about trying to make things easier for them and for us". The department said they are sent at random to high earners, and that they do not suggest that those people are under any suspicion.

HMRC is keen to close the tax

**Oct 31**

The deadline for 2021-22 tax returns on paper

gap between the tax paid and the amount that it believes is owed. The gap for 2020-21 was £32 billion, 5.1 per cent of the total due. The figure includes money owed by taxpayers who failed to take reasonable care with

their affairs, criminal attacks, non-payment and tax evasion.

George Crozier, a spokesman for the Chartered Institute of Taxation, said that those invited to a telephone interview should agree to one, but it was "strongly advisable" that their accountant or financial adviser was also present on the call.

He said that HMRC would be particularly keen to be told about "changes in circumstances, unusual transactions or uncertain tax treatments. We would say it is positive in principle, while recognising that some taxpayers and advisers may be suspicious of HMRC's motives."

HMRC said: "We are inviting a small number of customers with complex tax affairs to a voluntary call before filing their next tax return. These calls will help them to get things right the first time."

David Byers

## We used to love fixes, but is it time to turn to trackers?

**R**ising interest rates are causing more buyers to turn to tracker mortgage deals.

A tracker is a type of variable rate mortgage, with the rate usually pegged to the Bank of England's base rate. That means your monthly repayment rises when the base rate goes up.

The margin between the base rate and the rate on your mortgage is fixed — for example, your tracker mortgage might be the base rate plus 2 per cent.

"I am seeing an increase in the number of tracker mortgages taken up," said Mike Staton from the mortgage broker Staton Mortgages. "There is a risk that your costs will go up in the short term, but if rates come down, tracker mortgage holders will be the first to benefit."

David Hollingworth from the broker

L&C Mortgages said that the number of borrowers opting for trackers was, however, still small. Buyers typically prefer fixed-rate deals because they give certainty about your monthly repayments, but tracker mortgages can be cheaper.

Skipton Building Society has a tracker deal that is 0.72 per cent above the base rate, fixed for two years. It has a £995 fee but no exit penalty. As the base rate is 1.75 per cent, the interest rate is currently 2.47 per cent.

If the base rate goes up 0.75 percentage points as expected, this rate will jump to 3.22 per cent, adding £1,152 a year on to repayments for a 25-year £250,000 mortgage. Skipton's equivalent two-year fix is at 3.57 per cent, but is due to be withdrawn on Monday.

Imogen Tew

## Money

# Good news: rates are up. Bad

Savers have suffered low rates for 15 years but better deals come at a price, warns George Nixon

**S**ince the 2008 global financial crisis savings rates have been appalling.

Before the measures brought in to get us through that crisis, savers had been able to earn a decent monthly income from money held in a cash account. But when the Bank of England base rate was cut to a historic low and quantitative easing began, the interest you could earn on your savings fell to a few pounds a year — if you were lucky.

Now, however, things are changing. The Bank of England base rate has been rising since December, with six increases to take it up to 1.75 per cent. Savings rates have gone up slowly in response, reaching a level this month that means that savers can start to hope that interest could once again provide them with some income.

What many savers may have forgotten, though, is that savings income earned outside of an Isa is taxable at standard rates of income tax.

That could come as a nasty surprise.

#### Taxing your savings

Interest on cash savings has always been taxable, which is why the government launched the Isa in 1999 — an account where you could grow your money without HM Revenue & Customs getting its hands on it.

Between 1999 and April 2015, those on low incomes paid a lower tax rate of 10 per cent on up to £2,880 of savings interest — the starting rate for savings. You lost £1 of this allowance for every £1 you earned above the personal allowance (which by 2015 was £10,500 a year). Once all of the allowance was gone you paid tax on interest at the basic rate of 20 per cent.

This tax was usually deducted by the bank before it paid you. If you didn't pay income tax because you didn't earn enough, you would fill in an R85 form to claim the tax on your interest back, and if you were a higher-rate taxpayer you would normally have to declare your savings interest on a self-assessment form.

Then, in April 2015, the chancellor George Osborne scrapped the 10 per cent tax rate and increased the starting rate for low earners to £5,000, meaning that anyone earning less than the personal allowance (now £12,570 a year) can earn up to £5,000 in interest tax-

free. The allowance still reduces by £1 for every £1 you earn above the personal allowance, meaning it is wiped out completely once you earn £12,570 a year or more.

In 2016 Osborne also introduced a personal savings allowance. Basic-rate taxpayers can earn £1,000 interest a year tax-free, higher-rate payers can earn £500, and top-rate 45 per cent taxpayers get nothing.

However, because savings rates were so low, the Office for Tax Simplification estimated in 2018 that only 5 per cent of savers would ever pay tax on their savings.

The personal savings allowance also made savers' lives easier because it was now no longer up to them to tell HMRC that they didn't owe tax. It is now the bank's responsibility to inform the tax office if a saver has earned more than their allowance, at which point HMRC will change the saver's tax code to recoup the tax owed.

#### The fall and rise of the cash Isa

There was a side-effect of the introduction of the savings allowance — saving into a cash Isa became less important.

Rates on Isas, especially fixed ones, have tended to be lower than other savings accounts because banks are required to allow savers more access to funds held in an Isa. The price for this flexibility is a lower rate.

The Isa market is smaller than the non-Isa market, especially for fixed-rate Isas, and the cost of running them, due to issues such as having to offer transfers and report data to HMRC, is also higher, making them a less attractive way for banks to raise funds.

Because they are less profitable the smaller banks that tend to offer competitive rates to attract new customers are slow to launch new Isas. For example the Goldman Sachs-owned bank Marcus launched a market-leading easy-access account in September 2018. Its Isa was launched two years later.

While money has kept flowing into Isas, with the amount held in them rising to an all-time high of £295 billion in February 2021, £10 billion has been pulled out this year and the proportion of our money held in them has slumped. In January 2016 21.86 per cent of household deposits were held in Isas, according to the Bank of England. By

January this year it had fallen to 17.23 per cent.

#### Rising rates make Isas important again

To have exceeded the £500 personal allowance in January, a higher-rate taxpayer would have needed to hold more than £36,750 in the best-paying one-year bond at the time, which paid 1.36 per cent. A basic-rate taxpayer would have needed £73,500 to make more than their £1,000 allowance.

Now the best one-year bond is from Virgin Money and pays 3.32 per cent interest. A higher-rate taxpayer could hold only £15,060 for a year before they earned enough interest to incur a tax bill, and basic-rate taxpayers could hold £30,120.

The top easy access rate is now 2.1 per cent from Al Rayan Bank. You would need to hold £23,800 in it as a higher-rate taxpayer to earn enough interest to pay tax and a basic-rate taxpayer would need to hold £47,620.

If your savings are above those amounts, then putting your money in an Isa could save you a tax bill.

#### But which Isa is worth it?

With an Isa you can save up to £20,000 a year across up to four types of Isa, although you can only pay into one of each type a year. Some Isa providers offer the ability to pay into different variable and fixed-rate Isas in the same tax year, but usually you can only pay into one.

The best one-year Isa rate is 2.62 per cent from Virgin Money — substantially lower than the best one-year bond. Working out whether your money would be better off

after tax in a savings account is complicated because you need to weigh up the higher interest you would receive and the tax you would pay against what you would earn tax-free in an Isa at a lower rate.

If you put £20,000 in the 3.32 per cent Virgin Money one-year bond, you would earn £664 interest.

If you were a higher-rate taxpayer, £500 of that would be sheltered by your personal savings allowance, so £164 would be taxable at 40 per cent, costing you £65.60 and so reducing your interest to £594.40.

This is more than the £524 you would earn in Virgin Money's 2.62 per cent Isa. You would make £74.40 less in the Isa,

**2.1%**

best easy-access savings rate, available from Al Rayan bank

**3.32%**

best rate on a one-year bond, available from Virgin Money

## Flashback to a crisis



but with the proviso that once deposited, your money is tax-free for life.

You would need to put about £32,000 in the Virgin Money Isa to earn more than you would get from putting it in the bond, assuming that you had an old Isa balance that you could transfer into the new one-year Isa to take you above the £20,000 annual limit. You would earn £1,062.40 in interest in the bond, £562.40 of which would be taxable, costing you £224.96 at 40 per cent tax and reducing the return to £837.44. You would earn £838.40 with the Isa.

If you are a basic-rate taxpayer the bond is probably the better deal. If you had £20,000 you wouldn't earn enough interest from the bond to pay tax, so you would keep the full £664 and make £140 more interest than in the Isa.

If you had £32,000 in the bond, £62.40 of the £1,062.40 you would earn would be taxable at 20 per cent, so you

would pay £12.48, reducing the return to £1,049.92 — still £211.52 more than you would earn with the Isa.

The best easy-access savings account is 2.1 per cent from Al-Rayyan Bank. A higher-rate taxpayer would need to hold £24,000 for a year to pay any tax on the interest.

The best rate on an easy-access Isa is 1.75 per cent from Gatehouse Bank. You would need about £41,000 before it would make you more money than the easy-access account. (And that's assuming you had an old Isa balance you could transfer into the new Isa to take you above the £20,000 annual limit.)

Basic-rate taxpayers could hold up to about £47,600 in the Al-Rayyan account before paying any tax.

James Blower, the founder of the comparison site the Savings Guru, said: "If you have savings which will earn enough interest to take you over the

## 'We will have to charge £9.50 a latte to pay bills'

**J**anet Gillbanks opened her café in Leicester in September 2020 (Sasha Nugara writes). Two years and a pandemic later, she may have to shut up shop after being told that her energy bills are rising from £10,000 to £55,000.

Five Fox Lane sells homemade cakes and sandwiches and has just been granted a licence to serve alcohol. Gillbanks had hoped that would boost profits, but now fears that her business

may not survive into the new year. "We've just had our first uninterrupted year of trading, so for this to happen is absolutely heartbreaking," Gillbanks said.

The cafe would have to raise the price of a £3.25 latte to £9.50 to offset soaring inflation and energy bills, she said. The prices on her menu have already gone up 10 per cent since July to meet rising costs. Gillbanks took about £225,000 in revenue in the past year and just about



broke even. But with no profit, there is no room to spend more on energy bills.

"It's getting more difficult all the time. We can't sustain that, no small business can," she said. "I already thought £10,000 was a lot."

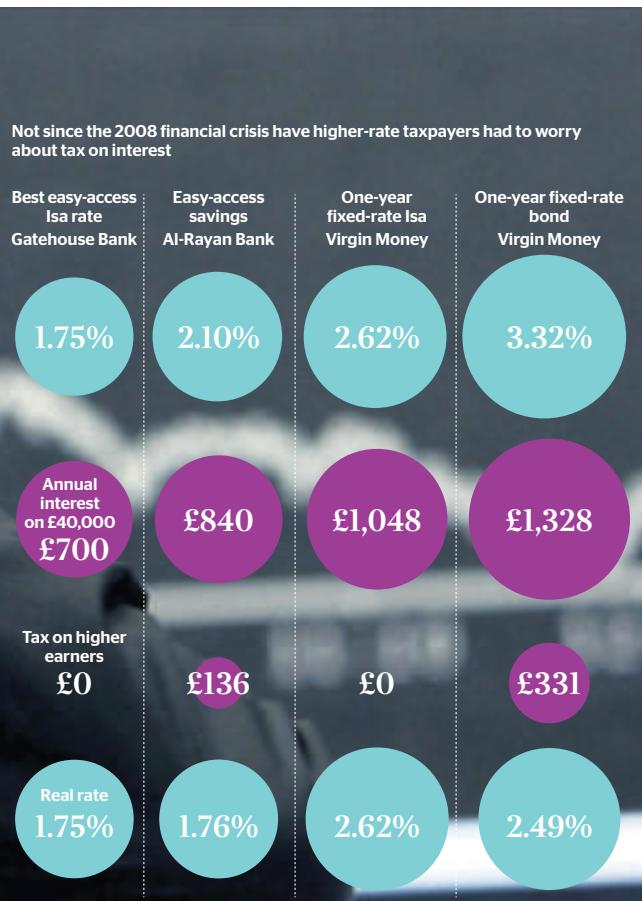
Gillbanks pays more than £100,000 a year in salaries for her seven staff and feels responsible for their livelihoods. When they heard the cafe might be closing, the staff were very upset.

To curb costs, Gillbanks is replacing the cafe's walk-in fridge with a smaller, more energy-efficient version, and turning off some of the high-powered cookers and

freezers. This, however, means less space for stock, limiting the food they can produce. Other money-saving options include buying cakes instead of baking them, and closing early in the winter.

All this won't be enough to pay a £55,000 bill though and Gillbanks is calling for the new prime minister to do more than the plan to freeze firms' energy bills for six months. Gillbanks said: "It's such a shame that all the businesses that survived Covid will have to close now. I really don't want to. I can't believe what's happening. It's mind boggling."

# news: tax on savings is back



personal savings allowance and to start paying tax, then you should look at Isas. If you cannot shelter all your savings in an Isa (because you will exceed the £20,000 allowance) then look to utilise Isas just for your easy-access savings, where there's only a 0.35 percentage point differential between the best buys. There is a gap of 0.8 percentage points between the best one-year fixed-rate bonds and one-year Isa."

**The other tax trap to think about**  
Even if you don't think you're at risk of breaching your personal allowance as a basic-rate taxpayer, you need to think about what higher savings rates could mean for your overall tax burden.

If you're right on the cusp between tax bands, your savings income might tip you over the edge — because it forms part of your earned income.

On earnings of between £12,570 and

£50,270 a year you pay 20 per cent tax. You pay 40 per cent on anything you earn between £50,271 and £150,000. Additional-rate taxpayers, who earn £150,000 or more, pay 45 per cent tax and get no personal savings allowance.

Your interest income is added to your earned income before your personal savings allowance is worked out. This means that if you earn an extra £1 in interest or income to push you into the next tax band, your personal savings allowance is reduced too.

For example if you had a salary of £50,000 a year and made £600 in interest on your savings — which you would earn from about £28,600 held in the top easy-access account — your interest would push you into the higher-rate tax bracket and your £1,000 personal savings allowance would be cut in half to £500.

That would mean £100 of your £600

in interest would then be subjected to a higher tax rate of 40 per cent.

This is going to become more common because income tax thresholds have been frozen at their current rate until 2026.

The number of higher-rate taxpayers has increased from 3.83 million in the 2019-20 tax year to 4.76 million in 2021-22, according to HMRC, down largely to what is known as "fiscal drag", where tax bands don't keep pace with inflation.

Average weekly earnings excluding

bonuses before inflation went up 4.7 per cent in the year to June according to the Office for National Statistics, and employees are likely to ask for more pay rises in the face of the highest rate of inflation in 40 years.

At the same time, savings rates are expected to continue to increase as the Bank of England raises the base rate further — it is already at its highest level since 2008, but in July 2007 it was 5.75 per cent.

Anna Bowes, a co-founder of the financial advice website Savings Cham-

pion, said: "It is not a fair system and it does not need to be this way. If the government simply implemented a taper system to reduce the amount of allowance someone has, based on the additional income they are receiving in interest, as opposed to this precipice system, it would be a lot fairer to all."

"That said, it is important that savers are not put off trying to improve the amount of savings interest they receive, because most will benefit handsomely, regardless of the personal savings allowance they will receive."

# TIMES RADIO

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## Retirement plans on hold

**A**bout one in five workers are putting off retirement due to the rising cost of living and uncertain markets.

Savers are planning to delay drawing their pension by two and a half years on average, according to a survey of 3,000 people last month by the investment firm Fidelity International.

The war in Ukraine, global supply chain disruptions and the soaring cost of living have spooked markets, making it a stressful time for anyone hoping to retire. Of those who are delaying their retirement, 44 per cent need more money due to the rising cost of living. 31 per cent are concerned about potential recession and 31 per cent said they

need to recover losses from their funds.

About 173,000 over-65s joined the workforce in the three months to the end of June, taking the total for that age group to 1.47 million, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Emma-Lou Montgomery from Fidelity International said: "Many are reassessing their plans to ensure their income is sufficient."

If you are thinking of delaying retirement, tell your pension firm, particularly if you are a member of its default investment plan. These assume that you will retire at 65 so your savings are gradually moved to lower-risk products as you approach the target age.

Ali Hussain

# It's getting harder to help children onto the ladder. Here's what to do

The cost of living crisis is affecting everyone, but there are still measures you can take, writes David Byers

Peter Wallace is a fully fledged member of the Bank of Mum and Dad.

When he worked as a management consultant in London he worked long hours with the aim of helping his children.

He pays his 19-year-old daughter, Anamika, £600 a month to help her through medical school and did the same for his son, Alexander, 23, until he graduated last summer with a business degree.

However, his long-standing plan to help his children buy their first property has been thrown into serious doubt because of the economy. His pension has fallen 7 per cent this year.

"I planned to liberate some money from a personal pension, but it makes no sense to make a withdrawal now, given how poorly it is performing," he said. "I need to sit tight and see what happens when the markets improve."

Wallace's plans are complicated further because during the pandemic he resigned from his management consultancy job and decided to split his time between the Philippines, where he has a girlfriend, and his native Northern Ireland.

Prioritising lifestyle over work meant that his income fell 65 per cent almost overnight. Of course, like all of those who joined the "Great Resignation" during the pandemic, he never anticipated the startling rises in the cost of living, nor the war on Ukraine.

"I wanted a change of lifestyle — to spend time with my girlfriend and work

with her on a new business venture and build our life together," he said.

Suddenly the Wallace branch of the Bank of Mum and Dad is running low on cash and he is no longer sure if he will be able to give his children the financial boost he had hoped.

Parents such as Wallace have helped hundreds of thousands of young people to stump up deposits that they would never have been able to raise without help, as rising property prices have consistently outpaced wages and made homes unaffordable for many first-time buyers.

Since January 2019 house prices have risen 25.6 per cent on average, according to Nationwide — twice as fast as income.

In 2020 the Bank of Mum and Dad handed over about £6 billion, an average of £20,000 per child, to help them to get on the ladder. If those gifts had been home loans, the Bank of Mum and Dad would be the nation's ninth biggest mortgage lender.

However, a study last month by the insurer Canada Life suggested that the cost of living crisis is making it harder for parents to help with deposits. Some 47 per cent of those who give help to grown-up children said they expected it to become harder in the next 12 months.

Inflation, which rose 10.1 per cent in the year to July, has hit the value of pensions. Inflation is highly damaging for those drawing income from savings and investments because you need your cash to grow as fast as rises in the cost of living, otherwise you are effectively getting poorer every year. If you are not working, you have little chance of boosting your income.

Parents that still have mortgages face

additional costs because anyone coming to the end of a fixed-rate deal will find that the historically cheap deals we have enjoyed for years are gone and rates are getting higher by the day.

Chrissie Burton, 54, from Ossett in West Yorkshire, has children aged 23 and 19 and was hoping to help them to buy a property. Her husband, an automatic door engineer, was made redundant during the pandemic and although he now has a new job he earns less. The family are relying on income they get from their rental property and from a lodger living in their home. Burton, a former nurse who does not work at the moment, makes extra income from

things such as hiring out her fine china set for afternoon teas.

Her son, 23, pays his own way with an apprenticeship as a mechanical engineer, while her daughter is at York University studying for a degree in film and television and has a part-time job.

The only way the Burtons could help their children to buy a property would be to sell their own house and downsize. They might also need to rely on the children's grandparents, who have set aside a bit of money.

"Where parents are perhaps not able to provide as much help towards a property deposit as anticipated, they may be able to help in another way: by acting as guarantors for their children's loans," said Jason Hollands from the wealth manager Evelyn Partners.

A guarantor mortgage allows someone to take on responsibility in the event that the borrower cannot make their repayments. The guarantor won't own a share of the property and won't be named on the deeds. Guarantors tend to be in a more stable financial situation. You have to be at least 21, have

**47%**

of those who give to their children think it will get harder in the next year

“

It makes no sense to withdraw money now when my pension has lost 7% this year



a strong credit score, have a high level of property equity and a high enough income to cover the repayments.

If you can't afford enough for your child to get a deposit, you could contribute to them buying a home by paying into a Lifetime Isa.

This scheme helps people to save for a first home or retirement. You must be aged 18 to 39 to open an account, although you can pay into it until you are 50. Account holders, and their friends and family, can pay in up to £4,000 a year and earn a 25 per cent government bonus of up to £1,000 a year. The funds can be used to buy a first house worth up to £450,000 or accessed after the age of 60 to help with retirement. Beware, if you use the money for anything else you have to pay a penalty that works out at more than the bonus. The Lifetime Isa has been a huge success and it creates a savings habit.

The third option, which will require taking financial advice, is to consider unlocking money from your home.

Thanks to rocketing house prices over the past 30 years, many baby

boomers — usually defined as those born between 1946 and 1964 — hold a huge amount of money in their homes, owning more than half of the UK's £1.2 trillion of housing wealth.

Big lenders such as Canada Life and Legal & General Home Finance reported rising numbers of asset-rich, cash-poor borrowers using equity release to help with day-to-day spending in the first half of this year.

The most common form of equity release is a lifetime mortgage, a type of loan open to the over-55s where you do not have to make any repayments. You borrow against your home, usually up to 40 per cent of its value. The debt is settled when the property is sold, normally when the borrower dies or moves into care. It was historically used only by pensioners with debt or those wanting cash for refurbishments or the holiday of a lifetime.

The cost of these loans is going up because they are based on the yields, or returns, of long-term UK government bonds or gilts.

The average rate on a loan in the first

## Cashback to move pension

NatWest is offering cashback of up to £5,000 if you join its new pension scheme.

The reward for transferring a pension pot to NatWest is available until November 11 and the amount you get depends on the size of your pot: it's £250 for between £10,000 and £49,999 but £5,000 for £600,000-£1 million. That's equivalent to cashback of 0.5 per cent on a £1 million pot.

Savers should take advice before switching a pension. Compare the fees and range of investments available. Anyone with an old-style defined benefit, also known as a final salary pension, may lose valuable rewards by moving it.

The ongoing charge for the NatWest Invest Pension is capped at 0.5 per cent a year, and the platform fee is up to 0.15 per cent a year. The maximum you would pay overall is 0.65 per cent.

By comparison, one of the best-rated ready-made personal pensions by our sister site Times Money Mentor is the Halifax portfolio, which charges between 0.56 per cent and 0.63 per cent.

NatWest said the cash incentive was to encourage people to consolidate and keep paying in to their pensions. The bank said about a fifth of savers had reduced, frozen or stopped their contributions during the cost of living crisis.

Sasha Nugara

## Want to know how much energy you're

Households are having to monitor their energy usage with out-of-date information on phone apps because of faulty smart meters.

Smart energy meters come with an in-house display, which is meant to tell you exactly how much energy you are using and what it is costing in real time.

However, they often do not work, give the wrong information, or leave out VAT and the daily standing charge, which make up a large part of the bill.

As a workaround, users are being told to look at suppliers' mobile phone apps instead — but the data on these is not in real time, making it difficult to monitor your daily energy use.

The Sunday Times has been inundated by letters and emails from readers about problems with their smart meter displays. A dossier of cases has been passed on to the regulator Ofgem.

The cost of the £13.5 billion smart meter roll out, ultimately paid for by consumers, was meant to be offset by the savings made from lower energy usage. It was hoped that by giving users information about costs they could make cutbacks where possible.

But many customers have struggled to get suppliers to fix broken smart meters. They typically charge you for a replacement if 12 months have passed since installation. If you switch suppli-

er, there is no guarantee the display will continue working properly.

Your supplier's mobile phone app can tell you how much energy you are using and what it is costing. The app is more likely to give you an accurate reading about your usage than a smart meter, but there's a catch — it will only tell you what you used the day before.

Smart meter displays, by contrast, can show usage in near real time (assuming it has been set up correctly), has the correct tariff information and includes standing charges and VAT.

Another option is a third party mobile phone app such as Hugo, which lets you monitor your usage regardless

Peter Wallace  
with his  
daughter  
Anamika and  
son Alexander



three months of this year was 3.65 per cent, up from 2.8 per cent in the last three months of 2020, according to the retirement finance firm Key Group. At 3.35 per cent, a debt would double in 19 years, potentially swallowing up a large chunk of your property value and leaving you less to pass on. Your property price should however rise to negate some of the debt interest.

If you are paying off interest as you go, instead of rolling it up and adding it to the loan to be repaid when you die, as more borrowers are choosing to do, monthly repayments on a £100,000 loan would have risen from £233 to £304 since last year, assuming a 30-year term.

Another way to help grown-up children is to allow them to move back home — even if just while bills are soaring, or



**Chrissie Burton and her husband said rising prices mean plans to help their two children buy properties are "up in the air"**

while they save to raise a deposit.

Rebecca O'Connor from the investment platform Interactive Investor said: "If you have a big enough home, they could move in to save on rent for a couple of years. If they helped pay the energy bills this could help you out too."

Many parents also help by providing childcare or babysitting.

The Burtons, meanwhile, are weighing up all the options to see what they can do without putting themselves into financial hardship.

Chrissie said: "The price of everything is going up so much at the moment. Groceries, bills, everything. We are better off than many people, but plans for our two children are very much up in the air."

I want to take more money from my house but the bank won't let me, page 65

## using? Don't ask that smart meter . . .

of which supplier you have — but it also only shows usage from the day before.

The app is free to use but the company hopes to make money by highlighting cheaper energy tariffs and getting referral fees if a customer switches.

Like energy suppliers, Hugo gets the information about your energy usage from the Data Communications Company, which collects information from smart meters. You must provide consent for it to do this when you register. You can withdraw consent at any time. Greenly is another app that works in a similar way.

Octopus Energy has developed a device called the Home Mini that acts like



In-house displays often don't include VAT or standing charges

a smart meter display but is updated every ten seconds, making it more accurate. This will not be available until at least next month the company said.

Suppliers are not required to show VAT or standing charges on the in-house display.

The latter is a daily fee to cover the cost of the network, failed energy companies and green energy schemes. It applies regardless of how much energy you use each day.

VAT and standing charges must be included in displays for prepayment customers only. These tend to be used by lower-income households.

Ali Hussain

## Tesco, Sainsbury's and Lidl cut back on their rewards

Shoppers could find it harder to earn loyalty points and perks at supermarkets as the cost of living crisis hits.

There will be changes to how Sainsbury's credit card holders earn Nectar points from November 1. Users will get one Nectar point for every £2 spent on their credit card at Sainsbury's, Argos, Habitat and Tu clothing, instead of two points for every £1.

A nectar point is worth 0.5p and can be spent at Sainsbury's or exchanged for vouchers and spent at its partners such as eBay, Argos, British Airways or Esso.

Sainsbury's is not making any changes to its regular Nectar card loyalty scheme, however. Shoppers will still earn one point for every £1 spent at Sainsbury's affiliates.

Sainsbury's said: "While we understand this offer is popular with card holders, we are certain that all customers will continue to find great value and to save money with Sainsbury's through our low-priced food, competitive financial services and affordable Argos and Habitat brands."

Tesco is reducing the value of Clubcard points when spent on "Delivery Saver" plans from November 14.

Delivery saver plans are six or 12-month packages designed to help Tesco customers save if they do their food shop online.

Shoppers get one Clubcard point for every £1 spent in store, and 100 points gets you a £1 voucher, making one point worth 1p. You can triple the value of your voucher by spending at certain partners such as PizzaExpress or Legoland.

Customers could also triple the value if they used their points to buy a delivery saver plan. That meant you would only need £27.96 in Clubcard points to buy a 12-month anytime home delivery pass, which

**0.5p**

value of a Nectar point

would usually cost £83.88. This will no longer be the case, and customers will have to pay full price.

The budget supermarket Lidl changed its Lidl Plus loyalty app on September 1. Previously, customers could get a £10 voucher when they spent £200 in store in a month. Now they have to spend £250 to get 10 per cent off a future spend. The discount can be used on a shop up to the value of £200, so the most you can save is £20.

Sasha Nugara

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# The best way to bet on tech: avoid the experts

## Get rich slowly

**David Brenchley**



For every one of the past 29 years, IBM has been granted more patents than any other American company. The technology software and hardware maker has had more than 150,000 US patents approved since 1920.

IBM has been the flagship growth stock for decades. And, partly as a

result of its success, investors seeking companies that offer rapid share price gains have long been attracted to the innovative technology sector.

When the firm launched its first computer, the IBM System/360, in 1964 it was the catalyst for a decade of share price gains: shares were four and a half times higher in 1973 than they were ten years before,

### Tough times for tech

Return on £1,000 investment

Allianz Technology Trust  
L&G Global Technology Index Trust



Source: FE fundinfo

according to Yahoo Finance.

Tech is more relevant today than it was back then, possibly more than it has ever been. Share prices are falling now and that might continue for a while yet, but many analysts believe we should be profiting from them again soon.

To make sure we're ready for that moment, we should be investing cash on a monthly basis into a fund such as the **L&G Global Technology Index Trust** fund, which produces the return of a collection of share prices of the 275 largest technology companies in the world.

I prefer this to technology funds that employ a well-paid stockpicker scouring the universe for the next generation of growth stocks, even though they have had impressive returns in the past.

In the past ten years, the MSCI World index, which tracks the share prices of most of the world's companies, is up 237 per cent versus the **Fidelity Global Technology** fund's 644 per cent gain and the **Allianz Technology Trust's** 642 per cent rise.

The L&G Global Technology Index fund has returned 507 per cent over ten years — less than the active funds, but not hugely so. The well-respected **Polar Capital Technology Trust** is up 397 per cent and has failed to beat the index fund.

If you invest in actively managed funds that charge high fees — and Allianz Technology Trust also has an extra charge if it delivers good performance, which is surely a prerequisite for any fund — you are taking on more risk and must demand better performance in return.

Essentially, the extra risk is that you're entrusting your money to someone in the hope that they will do better than the cheap index fund you could choose instead.

History suggests that very few people can do that. And for my money, the slight outperformance generated over the years doesn't compensate for that extra risk.

Indeed, you would have been better off in the L&G fund this year because it has fallen 17.8 per cent compared

with the Allianz Trust's 33 per cent. The Fidelity Global Technology fund has done better than both, down 5 per cent.

If you want to diversify slightly then the Allianz trust might be useful as a smaller part of your portfolio. Since 2007, when Walter Price took over management of the trust, it has gained 947 per cent versus 817 per cent for the L&G fund. Price recently retired and the fund is now managed by Mike Seidenberg, who has worked on the trust since 2016 and had been in Price's team since 2009.

Fast-growing technology stocks come with a high degree of risk, but the probability of high returns too. You just need to look at IBM to see that: the share price rose ten times in the run up to the start of the millennium before falling as much as 60 per cent in the next two years.

Even the best tech stocks can be caught up in market turmoil where their share prices plummet. The smartphone maker Apple and the software firm Microsoft were both about 30 per cent down at one point this year.

IBM is today a rather stale, unexciting stock that pays a high dividend yield of 5 per cent. It's the way of the world. When racy tech firms get too big, their growth slows and they become old news. This will probably happen to the FAANGs (Facebook, Amazon, Apple, Netflix and Google) at some point, too.

All of this is enough risk in itself, without adding the possibility that an active fund manager might not get it right when deciding which is the best of the next generation of tech stocks.

Sticking with the index may mean you're invested in future IBMs, former tech darlings become stodgy and slower growing, but in time the new generation of racy firms will come through and pick up the slack.



**Online**  
Follow David Brenchley's investments as he makes his changes [thetimes.co.uk/getrichslowly](http://thetimes.co.uk/getrichslowly)

# TIMES RADIO

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## Push for greener crypto

Cryptocurrency investors are nervously awaiting an upgrade to The Ethereum network earmarked for this week.

The upgrade — known as “the merge” — will make ether, the second largest cryptocurrency, less energy-intensive to produce and will marginally speed up trading. In the week to Friday, the price of ether has varied but was up 6.9 per cent to \$1,698.

The Ethereum network will begin using a new method to verify transactions on its blockchain, a type of digital ledger. The upgrade is expected to take place on Thursday, but could be earlier.

“It’s like changing the engine of an airplane while it is flying. Things could go disastrously badly if both engines fail,” said Andrea Baronchelli, a mathematician at City University. “However, there’s been long testing and developers have to be confident it will go well.”

At the moment transactions made on

the Ethereum network are verified using a method called “proof-of-work”. Multiple computers compete to solve a maths problem and the first to complete it is rewarded with new ether. Because the process creates new coins it is also referred to as “mining”.

Bitcoin also uses proof-of-work to verify transactions. The process is highly energy intensive and has drawn criticism from regulators worldwide, including in the EU. Bitcoin mining accounts for 0.42 per cent of the world's electricity usage each year, making its carbon footprint bigger than that of Belgium and the Philippines.

Ether will move to a proof-of-stake system, which will mean that instead of every computer in the network verifying new transactions on the blockchain, only a handful will be chosen. Developers think this will reduce the network's carbon footprint 99.95 per cent.

Lily Russell-Jones

# 'All I want to do is cash in the equity built up in my home'

**Times Money  
Mentor  
Troubleshooter**

**Katherine  
Denham**



In April last year I decided to borrow some money against my home in Chester. I am 65, have no children and am mortgage-free, so releasing equity from my £320,000 five-bedroom home seemed like the right option.

After a recommendation from my financial adviser I took out an equity-release loan of £59,200 with More2Life. I took a lump sum of £30,000 and £29,200 in three tranches last year. I spent the money on a car, holidays, home improvements and dental work, as well as to supplement my small pension.

I now want to release another £40,000 to spend in a similar way, but have since found out that the More2Life product only allows me to release about 18 per cent of the value of my house. I was not told about this loan-to-value [LTV] ratio when I took out the product, and it is not appropriate for my needs.

I can't get an answer from More2Life on whether it is possible to release more equity or move to a different product.

My financial adviser has retired, and my new adviser has been trying since the start of April to negotiate with More2Life. I hope that if I move to one of its other products I won't have to pay the early redemption fee of £2,700, and I am trying to expedite a deal before the Bank of England raises interest rates again. If you

could help it would save me days, possibly weeks of frustration.  
Name and address supplied

**Troubleshooter says**

You took out a lifetime mortgage, a type of equity-release loan for people over 55 that is secured against your home and paid off when the house is sold, usually when you die or move into care. Some borrowers pay the interest as it accrues, while for others it is rolled up and added to the loan.

Equity release has become increasingly popular as house prices have shot up. Between April and June 205 new equity-release plans were agreed each working day for an average of £135,000, according to the Equity Release Council. Most loans are protected by negative equity guarantees, so you will never owe more than the value of your home, but interest can cause the amount owed to balloon surprisingly fast.

Your Capital Choice Lite loan had an interest rate of 2.99 per cent, but you have been paying it monthly so that the amount you owe doesn't increase. The loan has low early

**THE TIMES  
Money Mentor  
Online**

**Equity release explained**  
[thetimes.co.uk/money-mentor](http://thetimes.co.uk/money-mentor)

"The low LTV of this product should have been discussed as part of the mandatory advice process."

The lender was concerned that you were taking a lot of money too quickly. In the northwest of England, where you live, the average drawdown is about £10,000. You had taken three times that in less than a year, as well as a £30,000 lump sum.

More2Life said that the delay in giving you an answer on more borrowing stemmed from confusion over the advice firm you were using. You had used a company in Chester that contacted More2Life on your behalf in March. When the firm advised against moving to a new product, you contacted another adviser, which also put in a request with More2Life.

It said each request took time to process, but admitted that your case had been incorrectly marked as "actioned" in its system.

More2Life agreed to waive half the early redemption charge as a goodwill gesture, meaning you would pay £1,330 to exit the contract. You have



moved to a different equity-release product, enabling you to withdraw an extra £32,000. With the advice, legal and early repayment fee totalling £5,000, you now have a loan of more than £97,000 secured against your home, which is still valued at £320,000. You are, however, paying a higher interest rate of 3.98 per cent. Lenders are being cautious over concerns that the cost of living crisis will affect the housing market.

You said it had been an expensive way of releasing an extra £32,000, but you are pleased to have more cash to enjoy in your later years.

**If you would like us to investigate a consumer problem, write to Troubleshooter, Times Money, 1 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9GF or [troubleshooter@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:troubleshooter@thetimes.co.uk). Please include a phone number**

## Failing the unfair postcode check

Following a suggestion in a Money article in early August, I wanted to open a one-year fixed-term savings account with OakNorth Bank. It pays 2.9 per cent interest, making it a much better deal than the 0.2 per cent that NatWest is paying me.

However, OakNorth requires its customers to have been resident in the UK for at least three years. I have had the same problem with a different bank, although I forgot which one. I was born in the UK but was a resident in South Africa for 36 years, and moved back here 18 months ago.

Throughout these 36 years I continued to use a NatWest current account that I have held since 1974, so I don't understand the problem. I have been able to take out credit cards and investment accounts with no difficulty, but not a savings account — why?

Are there any decent alternative savings products that

I am eligible for with 18 months residence in the UK?  
Richard Lawton, address supplied

**Troubleshooter says**

Each financial company sets its own requirements for opening an account. OakNorth is a new bank that launched in 2015, and money deposited in its savings accounts provides loans to entrepreneurs across the UK.

As you said, you need up to three years of residential history in the UK to open an OakNorth account. The bank said this is so that it can carry out checks that aim to prevent fraud and financial crime. Three years of residential history in the UK make it easier to electronically verify someone's identity using credit agencies.

Anna Bowes from the consumer website Savings Champion said 18 months is usually enough, and some require only three months. United Trust Bank offers the

top one-year fixed rate of 3.35 per cent, and doesn't require any UK address history. Investec's Fixed Rate Saver pays 3.3 per cent on deposits of between £5,000 and £250,000, and you need to have lived in the UK for only six months.

Smart Save pays 3.51 per cent on its two-year fixed-rate saver

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and 3.56 per cent on its three-year account. You need to deposit a minimum of £10,000 and no more than £85,000, and withdrawals are not allowed. Customers have to have been resident in the UK for six of the past 12 months. You will have to get in quick though — its top deals rarely last for long.

**THE SUNDAY TIMES**  
**Know your times**



# Best buys

Data supplied by



## Savings

### Easy access (without introductory bonus)

Provider	Contact	Account	Min	AER
Al Rayan Bank A	via website	Everyday Saver (3)	£5,000	2.10%
Gatehouse Bank A	via website	Easy Access	£1	2.00%
Zopa	via website	Smart Saver	£1	1.81%
Shawbrook Bank	via website	Easy Access - 30	£1,000	1.81%
Paragon Bank	via website	Triple Access - 9	£1	1.80%

### Long-term fixed rates

Provider	Contact	Account	Min	AER
SmartSave	via website	Fixed Saver (5 yr)	£10,000	3.61% F
Secure Trust Bank	via website	Fixed Bond (18.10.27)	£1,000	3.60% F
Close Brothers Savings	via website	Fixed Bond (5 yr)	£10,000	3.60% F
United Trust Bank	via website	UTB Bond (5 yr)	£5,000	3.59% F
Tandem Bank	via website	Fixed Saver (5 yr)	£1	3.55% F

### Easy access cash Isas

Provider	Contact	Account	Min	AER
Virgin Money	via website	Isa Exclusive 2	£1	1.75%
Gatehouse Bank A	via website	Easy Access Isa	£1	1.75%
Cynergy Bank	via website	Online Isa (25)	£1	1.65%
Paragon Bank	via website	Triple Access - 10	£1	1.65%
Skipton BS	via website	eIsa Saver 12	£1	1.60%

### Fixed-cash Isas

Provider	Contact	Account	Min	AER
Shawbrook Bank	via website	Isa Bond 14 (7 yr)	£1,000	3.47% F
Shawbrook Bank	via website	Isa Bond 37 (5 yr)	£1,000	3.45% F
West Brom BS	via website	WeBSave Isa (31.8.27)	£1	3.10% F
Leeds BS	via website	Fixed Isa (138) (31.10.27)	£100	3.10% F
Secure Trust Bank	via website	Fixed Isa (18.10.27)	£1,000	3.10% F

### Lifetime cash Isas

Provider	Contact	Account	Min	AER
Beehive Money	via website	Homebuyer Lifetime Isa	£1	1.30%
Beehive Money	via website	Retirement Lifetime Isa	£1	1.30%
Newcastle BS	via website	Cash Lifetime Isa (3)	£1	1.20%
Moneybox	via website	Cash Lifetime Isa	£1	1.20% B
Skipton BS	via website	Online Lifetime Isa 4	£1	1.00%

### Regular savings accounts

Provider	Contact	Account	Min	Mntly	AER
NatWest	via website	Digital Regular Saver	£0	3.30% V	
Royal Bank of Scotland	via website	Digital Regular Saver	£0	3.30% V	
Nationwide BS	via website	Flex Regular Saver	£0	3.00% V	
Nationwide BS	via website	Start to Save 2	£0	3.00% V	
Saffron BS	via website	Small Saver	£1	3.00% F	

### Pension annuities

Provider	Contact	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Legal & General	0345 765 4465	£2,782.20	£3,072.72	£3,500.40
Canada Life	0345 300 3199	£2,690.52	£3,027.84	£3,462.24
Aviva	0800 015 5064	£2,521.32	£3,009.23	£3,446.22
Just	0345 302 2287	£2,547.72	£2,925.72	£3,327.36

### Joint life

Provider	Contact	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
		Female: Age 55	Age 60	Age 65
Canada Life	0345 300 3199	£2,367.48	£2,571.12	£2,877.00
Legal & General	0345 765 4465	£2,225.04	£2,459.64	£2,678.76
Aviva	0800 015 5064	£2,111.74	£2,421.40	£2,635.80
Just	0345 302 2287	£2,124.24	£2,330.76	£2,556.72

Based on a pension pot of £50,000

## Mortgages

### First-time buyer mortgages

Provider	Contact	Initial Rate	Period	Max LTV	Fee	Redmptn charge until
Santander	0800 100802	4.09% F	to 2.12.24	95%	-	To 2.12.24
Bardays Mortgage	0333 202 7580	4.20% F	to 30.11.24	95%	-	To 30.11.24
Skipton BS	0800 446776	4.06% F	to 30.11.25	95%	£495	To 30.11.25
Cambridge BS	0345 601 3344	4.09% F	for 5 years	95%	£199	1st 5 yrs
Santander	0800 100802	4.14% F	to 2.12.27	95%	-	To 2.12.27

### Remortgages

Provider	Contact	Initial Rate	Period	Max LTV	Fee	Redmptn charge until
Barclays Mortgage	0333 202 7580	3.85% F	to 30.11.24	60%	-	To 30.11.24
Barclays Mortgage	0333 202 7580	3.93% F	to 30.11.24	75%	-	To 30.11.24
Skipton BS	0800 446776	3.67% F	to 30.11.25	75%	£995	To 30.11.25
HSBC	0808 256 6876	3.53% F	to 31.10.27	60%	£999	To 31.10.27
first direct	0800 482448	3.69% V	for term	75%	£490	None

### Short-term fixed-rate mortgages

Provider	Contact	Initial Rate	Period	Max LTV	Fee	Redmptn charge until
Penrhyn BS	0176 863675	3.49%	for 2 years	90%	£999	1st 2 yrs
Skipton BS	0800 446776	3.86%	to 30.11.24	60%	-	To 30.11.24
Skipton BS	0800 446776	3.97%	to 30.11.24	80%	-	To 30.11.24
Skipton BS	0800 446776	3.67%	to 30.11.25	75%	£995	To 30.11.25
Skipton BS	0800 446776	3.96%	to 30.11.25	90%	£995	To 30.11.25

### Long-term fixed-rate mortgages

Provider	Contact	Initial Rate	Period	Max LTV	Fee	Redmptn charge until
Post Office Money®	0800 077 8033	3.59%	to 31.12.27	75%	£1,495	To 31.12.27
HSBC	0808 256 6876	3.63%	to 31.10.27	60%	£999	To 31.10.27
HSBC	0808 256 6876	3.88%	to 31.10.27	90%	£999	To 31.10.27
Bardays Mortgage	0333 202 7580	3.65%	to 30.11.32	60%	£999	To 30.11.32
first direct	0800 482 448	3.93%	for 10 years	75%	£490	1st 10 yrs

### Variable-rate mortgages

Provider	Contact	Initial Rate	Period	Max LTV	Fee	Charge Until
first direct	0800 482448	3.69%	term	75%	£490	None
first direct	0800 482448	3.84%	term	75%	-	None
first direct	0800 482448	4.14%	term	80%	£490	None
first direct	0800 482448	4.29%	term	80%	-	None
first direct	0800 482448	4.79%	term	90%	£490	None

### Buy-to-let Mortgages

Provider	Contact	Initial Rate	Period	Max LTV	Fee	Redmptn Charge Until
Furness BS	0800 220568	2.39% D	for 2 years	75%	£995	1st 2 yrs
Loughborough BS	01905 631950	3.54% D	for 3 years	80%	-	1st 3 yrs
Principality BS	0330 333 4002	3.75% F	to 31.1.25	60%	-	To 31.1.25
Virgin Money	0330 057 1701	4.16% F	to 1.2.26	75%	£1,995	To 1.2.26
Bardays Mortgage	0800 197 1081	3.46% F	to 30.11.27	75%	£1,295	To 30.11.27

The selections above are based on a combination of initial rate, fee and incentive available.

### National Savings & investments

Notice or Term	Min	AER	Interest Paid
Green Bonds 3	3 Yr Bnd	£100	3.00% Yearly
Income Bonds	None	£500	1.21% Monthly

### Direct Saver

Junior Isa	Age 18	£1	2.20% Yearly
Direct Isa	None	£1	0.90% Yearly

## Personal loans

### Fixed monthly repayment on £10,000 for 5 years (without insurance)

Provider	Contact	Rep APR	Amount per month	Total repaid
cahoot	via website	2.9%	£179.07	

# Money

**Dividend yields** Please note dividend yields are supplied by Morningstar. The yield is the sum of a company's trailing 12-month dividend payments divided by the last month's ending share price

**12 month high and low** Please note the 12 month high and low figures for shares supplied by Morningstar are based on intra-day figures, not closing prices.

## Banking & finance

12 month High Low Company	Price (p)	Yield %	P/E	12 month High Low Company	Price (p)	Yield %	P/E	12 month High Low Company	Price (p)	Yield %	P/E	12 month High Low Company	Price (p)	Yield %	P/E																																																																																																																																																																																																	
263 <sup>1/2</sup> 141 <sup>1/2</sup> abrdn 151 <sup>1/2</sup> + 1% 9.2 32	220 <sup>1/2</sup> 34 <sup>1/2</sup> Admrial <sup>1/2</sup> 57 <sup>1/2</sup> + - 24.0 10	227 <sup>1/2</sup> 178 <sup>1/2</sup> M&G <sup>1/2</sup> 204 + 4% 8.9 6.7	8582 6370 Lond Stk Ex Gp <sup>1/2</sup> 8004 ... 0.9 81.8	313 185 Billington Hldgs <sup>1/2</sup> 185 ... 2.3 15.0	1436 <sup>1/2</sup> 891 <sup>1/2</sup> Segro <sup>1/2</sup> 930 <sup>1/2</sup> + 2% 2.4 2.7	58 20 <sup>1/2</sup> Checkit <sup>1/2</sup> 20 <sup>1/2</sup> ... ... 2.5	229 <sup>1/2</sup> 178 <sup>1/2</sup> Manx 204 + 5% 3.2 10.2	345 265 Boot (Henry) 275 - 1 2.0 14.7	52 <sup>1/2</sup> 29 <sup>1/2</sup> SIG 37 + 3 ...	630 147 <sup>1/2</sup> Cohort <sup>1/2</sup> 530 ... 2.0 47.1	274 <sup>1/2</sup> 178 <sup>1/2</sup> Manx Fin <sup>1/2</sup> 256 <sup>1/2</sup> + 5% 3.2 10.2	556 <sup>1/2</sup> 406 Br Land 414 + 3% 3.6 56.7	113 46 <sup>1/2</sup> SigmaRoc <sup>1/2</sup> 475 <sup>1/2</sup> + 1% 4.0 6.2	296 147 <sup>1/2</sup> Crestech Pl <sup>1/2</sup> 296 + 19 ...	187 <sup>1/2</sup> 110 Caledonian Tst <sup>1/2</sup> 152 <sup>1/2</sup> ... 30.4	144 78 Sirius Real Estate 80 <sup>1/2</sup> + 1% 4.0 6.2	2000 1035 Dewhurst <sup>1/2</sup> 1035 ... 1.3 11.9	41 <sup>1/2</sup> 13 <sup>1/2</sup> Marchale Cap <sup>1/2</sup> 21 <sup>1/2</sup> ... 1.2	179 <sup>1/2</sup> 116 Cap & Count Prop <sup>1/2</sup> 117 <sup>1/2</sup> + 1% 0.4 34.6	161 <sup>1/2</sup> 128 <sup>1/2</sup> Smart (J) 160 <sup>1/2</sup> ... 2.0 4.3	380 233 Dialight 243 <sup>1/2</sup> ... ...	1554 1263 <sup>1/2</sup> Marsh McL <sup>1/2</sup> 14427 <sup>1/2</sup> + 71 <sup>1/2</sup> 13 30.0	66 <sup>1/2</sup> 54 Cap & Regnl 58 ... -0.5	56 26 Steppen Cement <sup>1/2</sup> 32 <sup>1/2</sup> - 1% 11.6 7.7	178 <sup>1/2</sup> 104 Taylor Wimpey <sup>1/2</sup> 108 <sup>1/2</sup> + 2% 7.6 7.1	179 <sup>1/2</sup> 1018 <sup>1/2</sup> Electrolux 'B' 105 <sup>1/2</sup> + 39% 6.1 7.9	892 <sup>1/2</sup> 640 Mattioli Woods <sup>1/2</sup> 640 + 5% 3.2 ...	2590 1875 Cardiff Prop 2550 ... 0.7 27.7	178 <sup>1/2</sup> 120 Town Centre 165 ... 2.1 6.5	1440 580 Good Hsgeo <sup>1/2</sup> 594 + 4 0.7 44.0	27 <sup>1/2</sup> 13 <sup>1/2</sup> Metal Tiger <sup>1/2</sup> 18 - 1% 6.9	40 200 <sup>1/2</sup> Carecapital <sup>1/2</sup> 25 + 2 ... -2.9	183 118 <sup>1/2</sup> Clarke T <sup>1/2</sup> 137 + 1% 3.2 9.8	249 158 <sup>1/2</sup> Tritax Big Box Reit <sup>1/2</sup> 166 <sup>1/2</sup> + 3% 3.9 3.0	380 233 Dialight 243 <sup>1/2</sup> ... ...	159 <sup>1/2</sup> 152 <sup>1/2</sup> Nat Aust Bk 1762 <sup>1/2</sup> + 13 <sup>1/2</sup> 2.7 17.4	240 173 <sup>1/2</sup> CLS Hldgs <sup>1/2</sup> 173 <sup>1/2</sup> + 2% 4.3 5.9	118 79 <sup>1/2</sup> Tritax Eurobox <sup>1/2</sup> 80 - 1% ...	178 <sup>1/2</sup> 960 Hill & Smith 1026 + 20 2.8 24.1	283 <sup>1/2</sup> 207 <sup>1/2</sup> NWG <sup>1/2</sup> 260 <sup>1/2</sup> + 6% 4.0 10.2	530 225 <sup>1/2</sup> Countryside Prop 260 <sup>1/2</sup> + 1% ... 19.0	1207 990 <sup>1/2</sup> UNITE GRP 1051 + 9 1.8 12.2	125 85 <sup>1/2</sup> Holders Tech <sup>1/2</sup> 89 ... 0.8 5.4	567 <sup>1/2</sup> 399 <sup>1/2</sup> HSBC <sup>1/2</sup> 525 - 1% 3.0 11.4	50% 19% Craven House <sup>1/2</sup> 19% ... -0.4	144 1 Image Scan <sup>1/2</sup> 144 ... 9.1	1830 805 Travis Perkins 852 <sup>1/2</sup> + 18% 1.4 8.3	3935 2400 Goodwi 2615 + 65 3.9 14.4	20 <sup>1/2</sup> 21 <sup>1/2</sup> Appropriate Group <sup>1/2</sup> 25 <sup>1/2</sup> + 5% 33 10.9	1482 558 Impax <sup>1/2</sup> 597 + 16 1.7 19.7	161 <sup>1/2</sup> 128 <sup>1/2</sup> Smart (J) 160 <sup>1/2</sup> ... 2.0 4.3	380 233 Dialight 243 <sup>1/2</sup> ... ...	1010 810 Redhut Bkgs <sup>1/2</sup> 847 <sup>1/2</sup> + 32% 18 18.7	1554 1263 <sup>1/2</sup> Marsh McL <sup>1/2</sup> 14427 <sup>1/2</sup> + 71 <sup>1/2</sup> 13 30.0	66 <sup>1/2</sup> 54 Cap & Regnl 58 ... -0.5	56 26 Steppen Cement <sup>1/2</sup> 32 <sup>1/2</sup> - 1% 11.6 7.7	178 <sup>1/2</sup> 104 Taylor Wimpey <sup>1/2</sup> 108 <sup>1/2</sup> + 2% 7.6 7.1	179 <sup>1/2</sup> 1018 <sup>1/2</sup> Electrolux 'B' 105 <sup>1/2</sup> + 39% 6.1 7.9	209 <sup>1/2</sup> 210 <sup>1/2</sup> Natl Corp 2527 <sup>1/2</sup> + 116% 0.5 61.5	195 143 <sup>1/2</sup> Helios Under <sup>1/2</sup> 143 <sup>1/2</sup> - 1% 2.0 ...	133 70 <sup>1/2</sup> Metro Bank 89 + 1% ... -0.6	183 118 <sup>1/2</sup> Clarke T <sup>1/2</sup> 137 + 1% 3.2 9.8	249 158 <sup>1/2</sup> Tritax Big Box Reit <sup>1/2</sup> 166 <sup>1/2</sup> + 3% 3.9 3.0	380 233 Dialight 243 <sup>1/2</sup> ... ...	207 <sup>1/2</sup> 211 <sup>1/2</sup> Appropriate Group <sup>1/2</sup> 25 <sup>1/2</sup> + 5% 33 10.9	1482 558 Impax <sup>1/2</sup> 597 + 16 1.7 19.7	161 <sup>1/2</sup> 128 <sup>1/2</sup> Smart (J) 160 <sup>1/2</sup> ... 2.0 4.3	380 233 Dialight 243 <sup>1/2</sup> ... ...	155 <sup>1/2</sup> 152 <sup>1/2</sup> Natl Corp 2527 <sup>1/2</sup> + 116% 0.5 61.5	195 143 <sup>1/2</sup> Helios Under <sup>1/2</sup> 143 <sup>1/2</sup> - 1% 2.0 ...	133 70 <sup>1/2</sup> Metro Bank 89 + 1% ... -0.6	183 118 <sup>1/2</sup> Clarke T <sup>1/2</sup> 137 + 1% 3.2 9.8	249 158 <sup>1/2</sup> Tritax Big Box Reit <sup>1/2</sup> 166 <sup>1/2</sup> + 3% 3.9 3.0	380 233 Dialight 243 <sup>1/2</sup> ... ...	170 <sup>1/2</sup> 152 <sup>1/2</sup> Natl Corp 2527 <sup>1/2</sup> + 116% 0.5 61.5	195 143 <sup>1/2</sup> Helios Under <sup>1/2</sup> 143 <sup>1/2</sup> - 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# Money

12 month				Price												
High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	%	Ytd%	PIE	High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	%	Ytd%	P/E	
84½	30½	IxonCo•	39	...	-	12.5		427½	319	Bloomsbury Pub	404½	+ 7½	2.1	16.6		
501½	286½	Mediclinic Int	494½	-	-1%	-30.9		11½	4½	Bonhill Group•	5½	+ ½	-	-		
8½	1½	N4 Pharma•	1½	-	-	-1.8		88	42½	Catalyst Media•	87½	-	-	-		
785½	656½	Novartis	7126	+ 52	3.4	9.0		1	½	Catenae•#	½	-	-0.5	-		
58½	2½	Omega Diags•	2½	-	-	-1.0		1146	269	Dally Mall	270	- 2½	8.9	10.3		
1634	415	Oxford Biomedica	451	+ 13½	3.1	-20.2		195	100	DCD Media•	100	- 30	-	5.0		
7	2½	Phyomics•	2½	-	-	-9.4		7½	50	Ebiquity•	51	-	-	-		
5½	3½	Proteome Scies•	4½	-	-	-4.6		1466	829	Euromoney Inv Inv	1450	- 0.7	-	-		
6806	5911	Reckitt Benck	6568	+ 50	2.6	-		3844	1486	Future	1648	+ 58	0.1	28.3		
164½	31½	RUA Life Sciences•	46	-	½	-4.4		1560	930	GlobalData•	1050	- 40	1.6	51.9		
348	117½	Sareum Hldgs•	160	-	2½	-		121½	46½	Hycro Group	66	-	½	-		
1369	1008	Smith & Neph	1104½	+ 9½	2.4	25.0		550	46½	IDG Design Grp•	94	+ 1	9.2	13.7		
254½	206	Spire Hcare	238	-	2	-		624	464½	Informa•	560½	+ 14½	-	-		
212½	18½	Synairgen•	21½	-	½	-0.9		125½	61½	ITV	64½	+ 2½	6.9	-		
½	½	Tissue Regenix•	½	-	-	-7.0		12½	7½	Jaywing•	7½	-	-	-		
47½	30½	Totalty•	38	+	½	1.3	60.3		12½	3	Live Company Gp•	4	-	-0.8	-	
615	292	Tristel•	325	+ 10	2.0	67.0		59	34	Merit Grp•	34	-	-	-		
55½	10½	Vallix•	19½	+ 2½	-	-		74	45	Mirada•	45	-	-1.9	-		
<b>Industrials</b>																
181	88	Accsys Tech•	89	-	½	-	-	246½	167	Moneysupermarket	191½	+ 4	6.1	19.5		
5952½	3407½	BASF	3770½	+ 8½	7.3	7.4		212½	1314½	News Corp A	1496½	+ 45%	0.9	24.4		
586½	385½	Bayer DM50	458½	+ 8½	3.6	53.5		212½	1338½	News Corp B	1515½	+ 44%	0.9	24.7		
432	150	Biome Tech•	160	-	-	-5.3		1458	806	Next 15 Comms•	888	+ 77	0.7	-		
5½	2½	Bytrolf•	2½	-	-	-		915½	57½	Pearson•	915½	+ 13%	2.1	43.8		
7½	6	Cambl Hldgs Timbe•	6½	-	-	-9.0		107	56½	PhotoMe	107	+ 5	-	18.6		
81½	57	Coats Grp	58½	+ ½	2.4	13.0		4½	25	Primorus Inv•	3½	-	-5.7	-		
10410	5908	Croda•	6866	+ 210	1.3	29.9		175½	96½	Quarto	148½	+ 4½	8.0	-		
1575	835	Cropper (James)•	1035	-	-	-31.5		403	70½	Reach•	76½	+ 4%	9.1	84.9		
157½	96½	Elements	109½	+ 1½	-	-		2½	¾	REACT Grp•	½	-	-13.9	-		
40½	19	Hardline•	19	-	-	-3.6		249	201	Relx	2291	+ 17	2.0	30.2		
285	1721	Johnson Math	2006	+ 54	3.4	25.3		800½	531	Rightmove	630	+ 12	0.7	35.6		
2011	1309	Mondi•	1467½	+ 21½	3.4	11.2		155	92½	SpaceandPeople•	97½	-	-	-		
102½	75	Robinson	80	-	-	-6.8		377½	249	STV Group	297	+ 7	3.2	7.2		
461½	260½	Smith (DS)	279½	+ 4½	4.3	15.8		467	215	System1 Group	215	-	-	10.2		
627½	450½	Syndic Pacific	607½	+ 12	2.6	-		382½	2743½	21st Cent Fox Inc A	2967½	+ 7½	1.1	16.2		
28	14½	Symp Environ•	17½	-	-	-		3499	2542½	21st Cent Fox Inc B	2745½	+ 7½	1.2	15.0		
52½	182	Synthomer	191½	+ 6½	9.0	3.9		96½	12½	IGas Energy•	92	-	14½	-		
2446	1821½	Takeda Pharm	2372½	+ 17½	4.8	13.3		5½	¾	Independ Res•	½	-	-0.2	-		
13½	4½	Velocys•	7	+ ½	-	-8.7		317	214	Indus Gas•	255	- 3	-	26.4		
260	159	Victrex	1777	+ 27	3.3	21.1		122½	98½	Horizon Minis•	105½	+ 1½	-	-		
651	487½	Wynnstay Group•	610	-	-	24.10		249	201	Relx	2291	+ 17	2.0	30.2		
448	245	Zotefoams•	279	-	11	22.67		29½	214	Oil Search	218½	+ 5½	0.1	60.3		
<b>Leisure</b>																
478	119	888 Hldgs	123½	+ ¾	8.8	9.1		2½	¾	ADM Energy•	½	-	-	-		
992	544	Access Tech•	588	+ 10	-	15.4		5½	¾	Advance Energy•	½	-	-	-0.1		
740	370	Best of the Best•	450	+ 10	1.1	5.0		6½	18½	AFC Energy•	26	+ 1½	-	-		
1766½	619½	Carnival	781½	+ 24½	-	-12		—	—	Afenira PLC	—	-	-	-		
140	95	Celtic•	109	-	-	-10.7		½	½	Alba Mineral Res•	½	-	-3.1	-		
82½	1½	Cineworld	3½	-	½	-0.1		134½	80½	Alumina	85½	+ 3½	5.4	17.7		
465½	226½	Domino's Pizza•	255	+ 9½	4.7	13.0		1½	½	Aminex	1	-	-	-5.8		
2377	107½	Entain•	1218½	+ 18½	-	-27.2		3½	¾	Amur Minis Corp•	1½	-	-	-		
15890	7614	Flutter Ent	10235	+ 20	-	-		122½	6172½	Angle Amlar Plat	6172½	+ 395½	7.9	4.4		
40	22	Gaming Realm•	26½	+ ½	-	-		4170½	2470½	Ang Am•	2926½	+ 132	6.2	5.8		
300	290	Heavtree	290	-	-	-17.4		132½	72½	Angl Asia Mng•	73	- 4½	7.9	6.3		
200	170	Heavtree A&	185	+ 1	-	11.1		176½	99½	Antafagasta•	119½	+ 46½	4.4	12.3		
145	98	Hermes Pacific•	145	-	-	-		20½	11½	Aradale Cap•	2	+ ½	½	-		
5338	4193	Intercon Hts•	4793	+ 98	-	44.9		6½	15½	Armadale Res•	4½	-	-	-		
1½	½	Minao Grp•	1	-	-	-7.8		12½	5½	Arkle Resources•	½	-	-2.0	-		
27½	14½	Mitch & Butlers	165½	+ 3	-	-		134½	80½	Autumnal	85½	+ 3½	5.4	17.7		
393½	101½	On The Beach	128	+ 8	-	-6.5		1½	½	Banix•	1	-	-	-		
1600	1274	PPHE Hotels	1435	+ 15	-	-		3½	½	Bridgeman Res•	½	-	-1.5	-		
178½	74½	Rank Grp	80	+ 1½	-	10.8		1	½	Orion Mining•	½	-	-3.0	-		
124½	39½	Restaurant Gp	46½	+ 2½	-	-8.7		20½	7½	Orosur Mining•	14½	+ ¾	3.6	-		
35½	2½	Rotable•	34	-	-	-		24½	15½	Pan African Res•	19½	+ ½	4.3	6.2		
40	19½	Sportech•	19½	-	-	-		149½	53½	Pantheon Res•	121	+ ½	-	-		
303½	201½	SSP Group	225½	+ 9	-	-4.4		79	34½	Parkmead Grp•	61	+ 4	-	-5.2		
7½	3½	Tasty•	5½	-	-	-7.7		14	2½	Petro Matad•	2½	-	-2.4	-		
305	47½	Tintara	245	+ 25	-	-4.3		163½	87½	Petrofac	118½	+ 6½	-	-3.0		
294½	123½	TUI	138½	+ 6½	-	-1.4		1516½	92	Polymetal Int•	210	+ 1	4.6	-		
4½	2½	Webs Holdings•	2	-	-	-		772	510	Porvair	530	- 16	0.9	20.3		
109½	47½	Wetherspoon JD	521	+ 7½	-	-4.8		42½	11	Rambler Met&Min•	11	- 9½	-	-0.3		
463½	294½	BP•	450½	+ 7½	3.4	16.3		7½	2½	Prospect Energy•	7	-	-	-9.4		
343½	243½	Whitbread	2602	+ 51	-	-		25½	8½	Prudential Power S•	11	+ ½	-	-2.0		
1660	1090	Young & Co -A-•	1090	-	-	-4.2		4	½	Providence Res•	3½	-	-	30.8		
68½	63½	Young & Co -I-/IV•	634	-	-	-20		1516½	92	Polymetal Int•	210	+ 1	4.6	-		
74½	49½	Auto Trader•	658½	+ 18	0.7	32.4		72½	10½	Porvair	530	- 16	0.9	20.3		
242½	171½	Capricorn Energy	240½	+ 4½	-	-1.9		42½	11	Rambler Met&Min•	11	- 9½	-	-0.3		
5½	½	Caspian Sunrise•	3	-	-	-9.1		5½	½	Reabold Resources•	½	-	-	-9.1		
109½	74½	Contamin•	91½	+ 2½	5.6	14.2		7½	½	Red Rock Res•	½	-	-	-2.0		
284	200½	Cent Asia Metals•	232	+ 10	6.9	6.8		14	½	Reedcare	2½	-	-	-		
24	9½	Charat Gold	9½	-	½	-		2½	½	Rexona Mtns•	½	-	-	-4.3		
23½	5½	Charol' Oil & Gas•	19½	+ ½	½	-		7½	½	Rexona Mtns•	½	-	-	-0.5		
11½	3½	China Nonfer Gdp•	3½	-	-	-		14½	2½	Rexona Mtns•	½	-	-	-		
77	28½	Serabi Gold•	28½	+ ½	½	-		77	28½	Serabi Gold•	28½	+ ½	½	-		
242½	171½	Capricorn Energy	240½	+ 4½	-	-1.9		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
5½	½	Caspian Sunrise•	3	-	-	-9.1		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
109½	74½	Contamin•	91½	+ 2½	5.6	14.2		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
284	200½	Cent Asia Metals•	232	+ 10	6.9	6.8		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
24	9½	Charat Gold	9½	-	½	-		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
23½	5½	Charol' Oil & Gas•	19½	+ ½	½	-		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
11½	3½	China Nonfer Gdp•	3½	-	-	-		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
77	28½	Serabi Gold•	28½	+ ½	½	-		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
242½	171½	Capricorn Energy	240½	+ 4½	-	-1.9		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
5½	½	Caspian Sunrise•	3	-	-	-9.1		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15		
109½	74½	Contamin•	91½	+ 2½	5.6	14.2		7½	½	Clontarf Energy•	½	-	-	-15	</	

Data as shown is  
for information

purposes only. No offer is made by Morningstar or this publication



## Unit-linked insurance investments

	Sell	Buy	Weekly +/-	Yld %	Sell	Buy	Weekly +/-	Yld %	Sell	Buy	Weekly +/-	Yld %	Sell	Buy	Weekly +/-	Yld %	Sell	Buy	Weekly +/-	Yld %		
<b>ABBEY LIFE</b> 01202 292273 80 Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AE					<b>CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP</b> Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JJ 0197 9290566 Life Funds				<b>International</b>	616.50	648.40	+0.70		<b>Gilts &amp; Fd Int</b>	531.40	559.40	-0.30		<b>Squirrel</b>	28.50	30.08	
America Ser 4	3926.30	4132.00	+0.90		<b>Cash</b>	295.01	310.53	+0.02	<b>Japan</b>	294.50	310.00	+0.50	<b>Growth Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Stag</b>	89.69	94.21	+1.20		
Cardinal Ser 4	573.20	602.40	+0.50		<b>Distr Bd 52</b>	112.00	121.48	+1.40	<b>North Amer</b>	4185.30	4405.50	+0.40	<b>International Fd</b>	1231.60	1296.40	+0.50	<b>Pensions</b>					
Equity Ser 4	760.80	800.80	+1.20		<b>Gilt &amp; Fixed Int</b>	494.53	520.55	+7.59	<b>Perpetual</b>	486.80	500.00	+0.00	<b>Bear</b>	107.20	112.90	+0.50	<b>Bear</b>					
Ethical SA	403.70	424.90	+2.40		<b>Select Mod</b>	147.80	155.60	+0.30	<b>Property Ord</b>	1063.80	1119.70	+1.50	<b>Bull</b>	117.70	122.30	+0.90	<b>Bull</b>					
European SA	878.60	924.80	+2.40		<b>UK Equity Inc</b>	1540.30	1612.30	+0.50	<b>Opportunities</b>	1250.00	1300.50	+0.50	<b>Deposit</b>	34.62	36.44	+0.01	<b>Deposit</b>					
Flood Inv Fund	100.00	100.00			<b>UK Equity Growth</b>	2161.10	2278.80	+0.20	<b>Open Ended</b>	624.50	657.20	+0.30	<b>SafeEq Fund</b>	914.10	962.20	+5.80	<b>SafeEq Fund</b>					
High Inv Ser 4	2966.70	2956.50	+2.20		<b>UK Fd Int</b>	91.00	94.40	+1.20	<b>Opportunities</b>	1250.00	1300.50	+0.50	<b>UK Equity</b>	914.10	962.20	+5.80	<b>UK Equity</b>					
International SA	795.10	836.90	+9.20		<b>Pension Funds</b>				<b>UK Fd Int</b>	2604.40	2741.50	+1.30	<b>SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION</b>				<b>SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION</b>					
Japan Ser 4	509.30	536.70	+7.00		<b>Cash</b>	334.29	352.41	+0.04	<b>Aggressive Mod 4</b>	1003.20	1055.90	+3.70	<b>6 ST Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA</b>				<b>6 ST Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA</b>					
Man Ser 4	2282.00	2250.60	+1.20		<b>With Profits Flex</b>	127.00	122.00		<b>Balanced Mod 3</b>	3711.70	3900.00	+0.10	<b>Cash</b>	299.80	315.60		<b>Cash</b>					
Money Inv	152.70	155.40	+2.40		<b>With Profits</b>	396.50	415.90	+0.10	<b>Cautious Mod 2</b>	815.90	858.80	+0.50	<b>Equity Fund</b>	855.90	898.20	+6.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Prod Fd Inv	1086.90	1114.40	+0.30		<b>With Profits</b>	717.60	755.40	+0.40	<b>Select Mod</b>	1605.30	1760.00	+0.20	<b>Equity Fund</b>	1663.10	1760.70	+2.50	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Gb \$4	213.80	225.00			<b>With Profits Spec</b>	1108.30	1180.10	+0.40	<b>UK Equity</b>	2161.10	2278.80	+0.20	<b>Overseas Equity</b>	229.00	2415.00	+6.10	<b>Overseas Equity</b>					
<b>Formerly Hill Samuel Life Assurance Ltd</b>					<b>Pension</b>				<b>UK Equity</b>	2512.60	2644.80	+0.40	<b>UK Equity</b>	2512.60	2720.70	+0.20	<b>UK Equity</b>					
Equity Fund	2860.60	3027.10	+3.80		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>UK Fd Int</b>	2604.40	2741.50	+1.30	<b>SCOTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION</b>				<b>SCOTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION</b>					
European Fund	459.40	459.50	+0.01		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>6 ST Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA</b>				<b>6 ST Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA</b>					
Fund Inv	101.60	101.60	+0.00		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Cash</b>	298.10	303.08		<b>Cash</b>					
Income Fund	312.40	316.00	+1.60		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
International	312.40	320.50	+5.20		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
International	214.50	227.00	+9.20		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Managed Series A	213.10	225.30	+12.40		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Managed Units	308.00	312.00	+0.90		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Money Units	147.70	150.50	+0.50		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Units	673.40	700.80	+5.00		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Property Series A	149.70	158.40	+0.60		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Small Cds	280.00	292.00	+3.80		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
<b>Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Ltd</b>					<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Equity	355.30	374.00			<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Financial Ser 1	550.10	563.20	+3.40		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Fixed Interest	608.40	640.40	+11.00		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Managed	2102.60	2213.20	+12.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Mid Growth	784.80	800.00	+1.60		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Managed Units	147.70	150.50	+0.50		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Money Units	673.40	700.80	+5.00		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	108.90	114.00	+0.30		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40	160.10	+7.70		<b>PEarl</b>				<b>Far East</b>	1632.20	1718.20	+21.60	<b>Equity Fund</b>	841.10	885.40	+0.30	<b>Equity Fund</b>					
Protected Inv	152.40																					

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**Today** A few showers possible but mostly dry with variable cloud and sunny spells. Max 22C (72F), min 6C (43F)

### Around Britain

### Five days ahead

A mixture of showers and longer spells of rain, as well as plenty of drier and brighter periods

### Tomorrow

An odd low cloud, mist and fog will bring a mix start in places before clearing to leave a dry day in central and eastern Britain while rain spreads over Ireland and western Britain. Max 23C, min 9C

### Monday

Outbreaks of rain will spread further towards over England and Wales while Scotland and Ireland turn drier, although a few showers are still possible in the northwest. Max 25C, min 6C

### Tuesday

Rain is possible over southern Britain, especially the southeast at first, but there more places will be dry with variable cloud, sunny spells and just the odd shower in the far north. Max 22C, min 5C

### Wednesday

A mostly dry and bright day with variable amounts of cloud and sunny spells, as well as the odd shower may linger in the far south. Max 21C, min 4C

### Thursday

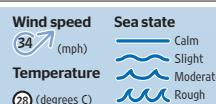
A few showers are possible, most likely across northern and eastern areas, while most places stay dry with sunny intervals elsewhere. Max 21C, min 6C

### The world

All readings local midday yesterday

Alicante	31	PC	Madeira	27	PC
Amsterdam	18	B	Madrid	27	PC
Athens	30	S	Malaga	27	S
Auckland	15	B	Mallorca	31	PC
Bahrain	36	S	Malta	30	PC
Bangkok	29	R	Melbourne	18	B
Barbados	31	PC	Mexico City	21	B
Barcelona	28	B	Miami	32	B
Beijing	31	S	Milan	24	B
Beirut	31	PC	Mombasa	28	PC
Belgrade	26	PC	Montreal	25	PC
Berlin	22	PC	Moscow	12	PC
Bermuda	28	B	Mumbai	30	S
Bordeaux	22	C	Munich	17	S
Brussels	18	B	Nairobi	19	B
Bucharest	28	S	Naples	29	PC
Budapest	25	PC	New Orleans	28	S
Buenos Aires	24	S	New York	26	B
Cairo	32	S	Nice	32	PC
Calcutta	33	S	Nicosia	33	S
Canberra	12	SH	Oslo	12	S
Cape Town	18	S	Paris	17	SH
Chicago	28	PC	Perth	21	PC
Copenhagen	18	B	Prague	20	SH
Corfu	29	B	Reykjavik	11	R
Delhi	35	S	Riga	14	S
Dubai	38	S	Rio de Janeiro	30	S
Dublin	18	B	Riyadh	41	S
Earn	24	S	Rome	29	PC
Florence	29	PC	San Francisco	34	S
Frankfurt	20	PC	Santiago	5	SH
Geneva	21	B	Sao Paulo	24	S
Gibraltar	26	S	Seoul	27	S
Helsinki	13	PC	Seychelles	28	PC
Hong Kong	34	S	Singapore	25	SH
Honolulu	31	PC	St Petersburg	12	PC
Istanbul	25	S	Stockholm	14	PC
Jerusalem	32	S	Sydney	19	B
Johannesburg	25	S	Tel Aviv	32	S
Kuala Lumpur	30	PC	Tenerife	28	PC
Kyiv	11	W	Tokyo	24	B
Lanzarote	28	PC	Vancouver	18	PC
Las Palmas	28	PC	Venice	25	B
Lima	14	D	Vienna	23	S
Lisbon	27	PC	Warsaw	13	M
Los Angeles	36	PC	Washington	24	B
Luxor	36	S	Zurich	19	PC

The Times weather page is provided by Weatherquest



### Flood alerts and warnings

At 17:00 on Friday there were ten flood alerts in England, two flood alerts in Scotland and no flood alerts or warnings in Wales. For further information and updates in England visit flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk, for Wales naturalresources.wales/flooding and for Scotland SEPA.org.uk



**General situation:** A mostly dry day with sunny spells, but a few showers are still possible, mainly in the east. **SE Eng, London, E Anglia, E Mids, E Eng, Cen E Eng, NE Eng:** A cloudy start for many places with areas of mist and fog, as well as a scattering of showers. Sunny spells will develop as the day progresses and many places will turn dry, although occasional showers are still possible. Light to moderate northerly winds. Maximum 22C (72F), minimum 9C (48F).

**Channel Is, SW Eng, Cen S Eng, Wales, W Mids, NW Eng, Lake District, IoM:** Mist and fog patches possible at first, then it will be a mainly dry day with variable cloud and sunny periods, although there is the chance of an odd isolated shower, especially in the east. Mostly light north to northwesterly winds, veering northeasterly in the north later. Maximum 21C (70F), minimum 9C (48F). **N Ireland, Republic of Ireland:** Low cloud, mist and fog will bring a dull

start in places, clearing to leave variable cloud, sunny spells and an isolated shower possible in the south but mostly dry. Light southeasterly winds, variable at times. Maximum 21C (70F), minimum 9C (48F). **Scotland:** A bright start in the southwest, but low cloud, mist and fog possible elsewhere. Then largely dry with sunny spells, apart from the odd shower in the east. Light and variable winds. Maximum 21C (70F), minimum 9C (48F). **Northern Isles:** A mix of sun and clouds with some showers. Light winds. Maximum 18C (64F), minimum 10C (50F).

### Tides

Tidal predictions.  
Heights in metres

Today	HE	HL
Aberdeen	01:43 4.4	14:24 4.4
Avonmouth	08:00 13.3	20:20 14.0
Belfast	11:54 3.4	--
Cardiff	07:51 12.3	20:12 12.9
Devonport	06:35 5.4	18:48 5.7
Dover	11:58 6.8	--
Dublin	--	12:26 4.0
Falmouth	06:01 5.1	18:15 5.5
Greenock	--	13:26 3.3
Harwich	--	12:27 4.1
Holyhead	11:10 5.6	23:18 5.8
Hull	06:43 7.7	19:33 7.6
Leith	02:57 5.7	15:32 5.8
Liverpool	--	12:00 9.4
London Bridge	02:25 7.2	14:48 7.0
Lowestoft	09:49 2.7	22:43 2.6
Milford Haven	06:59 7.0	19:17 7.4
Morecambe	--	12:10 9.5
Newhaven	--	12:02 6.9
Newquay	05:50 7.0	18:08 7.4
Oban	06:41 3.8	18:55 4.3
Penzance	05:24 5.4	17:41 5.8
Portsmouth	--	12:13 4.8
Shoreham	--	12:12 6.5
Southampton	01:55 4.2	13:53 4.6
Tees	04:08 5.6	16:45 5.6
Weymouth	07:37 2.0	19:52 2.3

### Synoptic situation

The low-pressure system responsible for the past week of unsettled weather will move away towards the Low Countries today, so although a few showers may linger in eastern Britain, many places will have a dry day with sunny spells. Overnight and tomorrow the remnants of ex-Hurricane Danielle will bring rain to western areas.

### Highs and lows

24hrs to 5pm yesterday

Aberdeen 20:11-06:01  
Belfast 20:23-06:19  
Coldest: Cairngorm, 6.1C  
Wettest: Chillingham Barns, Northumberland, 30.6mm  
Sunniest: Jersey, 7.4hrs\*

### Sun and moon

For Greenwich

Sun rises: 06:27

Sun sets: 19:26

Moon rises: 01:55

Moon sets: 07:26 Sun

Third quarter: September 17

### Hours of darkness

24hrs to 5pm yesterday

Aberdeen 20:11-06:01  
Belfast 20:05-06:05  
Cardiff 20:09-06:11  
Exeter 20:10-06:13  
Glasgow 20:18-06:11  
Liverpool 20:10-06:11  
London 19:57-05:59  
Newcastle 20:07-06:01  
Norwich 19:52-05:52  
Penzance 20:17-06:22  
Sheffield 20:04-06:02

### Weather Eye

Paul Simons



**A** near-miraculous transformation has swept large parts of the UK. An enormous green carpet has been rolled out as lawns, pastures and grasslands have changed from a sickly yellow colour in the long summer drought. They are now resurrected as the grasses have turned green in the downpours. And with largely drier weather on the way for much of the UK this weekend, there may well be a cacophony of mowers in action.

However, weather fronts are returning with more rain tomorrow in some western parts — but it is expected to be a largely warm, dry and sunny day over the rest of the UK. This next bout of rain is particularly interesting because it comes from the leftovers of an old hurricane called Danielle. This storm was notable because it was born unusually far north, about the same latitude as the Azores in the mid-Atlantic, thanks to unusually warm sea surface temperatures. But as the hurricane drifted northwards it soon died out in the cooler sea in the Atlantic.

As if one hurricane in the northern reaches of the Atlantic was not bad enough, hot on the heels of Danielle has come Hurricane Earl. This Category 3 hurricane had winds reaching about 100mph, and is swinging past Bermuda, where storm warnings are in force. This storm is also expected to die out in the hurricane graveyard of the cold North Atlantic, but its remnants will probably influence the UK's weather in some way, although exactly how is very uncertain. The impact of one ex-hurricane is a headache for weather forecasters trying to make sense of how its remnants interact with the wider weather. But two ex-hurricanes in rapid succession creates even more chaos in the atmosphere and uncertainty with forecasts chopping and changing in the near future. At present, the most likely scenario for the start of next week is for the south to be dry and the north wet but then it is all change on Tuesday with heavy showers in the south and the north turning dry.

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# Register

## Obituaries

### Maurice Putsman

Lawyer at the centre of a controversial property deal at Lord's cricket ground

Maurice Putsman represented a colourful roster of clients in his long career as a solicitor, but no case proved as intriguing as the proposed purchase of disused railway tunnels underneath Lord's cricket ground.

The two Victorian tunnels were owned by Railtrack, and the line itself, running from Marylebone to Aylesbury, had not been used since the nationwide Beeching cuts were imposed in 1966. The arched brickwork was in good condition and yet the entire space, 1,66 acres in total and running inside Wellington Road underneath the Nursery ground — the secondary playing area at Lord's — seemed to be of scant use to Marylebone Cricket Club, owner of the great ground.

A St John's Wood-based property developer had other ideas. Charles Rifkind, a cousin of Sir Malcolm Rifkind, the former foreign secretary, realised the potential of excavating the tunnels and building flats or a hotel or even a medical centre that could be linked to The Wellington, the hospital overlooking the Nursery ground. Although MCC owned the 18 inches of top soil, he believed it could be in the best interests of both parties to develop this land.

In 1999 Railtrack, having no future plans to run trains through the tunnels, decided to sell up. MCC was given first option and offered £1.25 million. The club's secretary and chief executive was Roger Knight, a former headmaster, and the president was Tony Lewis, a former England cricket captain. Neither was versed in the world of property purchases. The estates committee decided the land was of no use to the club or, indeed, anyone else and, besides, too much money had been spent on recent development, including the media centre.

Rifkind asked Putsman his opinion on outbidding MCC. "This is not as easy a deal as you have been accustomed to. Expect it not to be resolved for a generation and beyond. It may be difficult because you won't be considered part of the fold. Yet it will be the best purchase you will ever make," the lawyer told him. At the subsequent public auction Rifkind acquired the tunnels for £2.35 million, more than MCC felt it could afford. He also acquired an unforgiving attitude from the club, which continues to this day. The land value, if planning permission were achieved, is now more than £300 million.

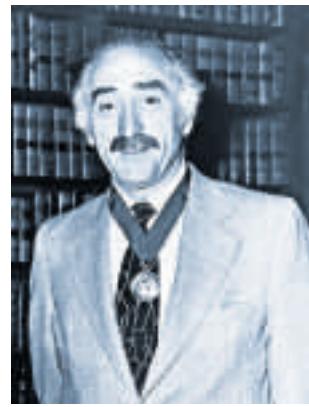
"My father was aware MCC was making a big mistake in not purchasing the tunnels," Jonathan Putsman said. "He would have known immediately it would have been a tremendous asset."

Knight's successor as chief executive, Keith Bradshaw (obituary, November 10, 2021) did attempt to bring about a reconciliation with Rifkind and to develop the area. Both parties had to be in agreement for this to happen. A high-powered development committee was formed, including Sir John Major, the former prime minister, Lewis and Mike Atherton, both former England captains, and leading QCs Robert Griffiths and Lord Grabiner.

The issue came to a head in 2011 when Oliver Stocken, the chairman, and Justin Dowley, the treasurer,

objected to the grandiose scheme and advocated that this committee be sacked. Major resigned from the club's main committee in high dudgeon and MCC and Rifkind continued to eye each other with suspicion. Putsman, who once said that his ideal day would conclude with watching cricket near his home at Edgbaston, Birmingham, continued to support Rifkind from afar. His attitude towards big transactions, as if based on Clint Eastwood's acting, was "a policy of masterly inactivity. You play the story and wait".

Arnold Maurice Putsman was born in Birmingham in 1925, the son of Isaac and Rita Putsman (née Geber). The family had been tailors in Poland. "My father told me that his father had first tried to settle in Berlin, where he had a relative, but the German Jews were not very fond of their brethren from eastern Europe and lacking any hospitality, he moved on to England. So by that small chance circumstance, we, his descendants, were spared the Holocaust," Maurice wrote.



Putsman defended thieves and killers

He was educated at King Edward VI Five Ways School but was evacuated after the start of the Second World War to Monmouth, where the school took over some vacant properties. "The regime was quite strict; a cold bath every morning, minimal food and supervised homework," he said. Putsman joined the Combined Cadet Force, which stood him in good stead when he joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment at the age of 18 in 1944.

Flown to the Netherlands to join the 2nd battalion on the banks of the Maas, Putsman was told to take men to destroy a German patrol that had crossed the river. "In the cellar of the house we were occupying, I dropped my Sten gun which went off. I felt something hot in my side but thought no more about it and went out. We did not meet any Germans and got back around dawn. When I took off my boots, the right one was full of blood."

"I found that I had shot myself and the bullet had gone through flesh without damaging any ribs. I was reluctant to admit what I had done so I put some antiseptic on the wound and said nothing. After a few days, a sort of pyramid of flesh had formed where the bullet entered and left, so I thought I had better

see the doctor. I did so, after swearing him to secrecy, and he treated the wound."

Putsman's war ended in Hanover in April 1945, when he was struck by shrapnel during shelling. On the journey home he read articles about the concentration camps at Belsen and Auschwitz. "I cut out the pictures and put them in a tin. I told my father that in ten years time it will be claimed nothing happened. I was not yet 20 years old, which goes to show what 2,000 years of persecution can do for one's perception. I decided to keep my pistol and some ammunition so that if anything similar ever happened in England, I would not go quietly. I kept the pistol until 1989."

He left the army as a captain at the age of 22 and began work as an articled clerk in Birmingham, taking over an established practice in 1951. The clients built up: these included The Greaves Organisation, a construction company which was floated in 1965, Allied Carpets and its founder, the racehorse owner Harold Plotnek, who won the Epsom Derby — and some ne'er-do-wells.

Putsman wrote: "I acted for thieves, murderers and one of the major extortion barons Lennie Smith, a big man who almost beat someone to death. I secured five successive acquittals for him. I defended another man, Pat Manning, who had been arrested by two officers who thought it was time for him to go to prison. They fabricated their

#### He accidentally shot himself with a Sten gun but still went on patrol

story, planting some burglary tools on him. At the trial, I knocked holes in the police evidence by a vigorous cross-examination and the magistrates disagreed; one wanted to convict and the other to acquit. He was retried, the police reconstructed their evidence, he was convicted and got six months. When I complained to the police afterwards, they said that Manning had got away with plenty of offences and it was rough justice if he went down for something he had not done."

In 1954 Putsman married Sheila Glass, whom he had met at a dance and who had given up her ambition to become an actress when her father died. Instead, she owned a haute couture business in Birmingham called The House of Isobel, which she sold in the 1980s. She survives him along with their children: Deborah is a retired journalist, Helen a photographer, Georgia a retired teacher, and Jonathan has retired from working in syndicated property.

Putsman enjoyed poker and golf (he was captain of Shirley Golf Club in Birmingham) and skiing in St Moritz. He could pick and choose his clients. When one irritated him, writing on notepaper headed "From the office of the chairman" he replied, on lavatory paper: "From the arse of the recipient."

**Maurice Putsman, lawyer, was born on June 29, 1925. He died after a heart procedure on July 23, 2022, aged 97**



### Neil Kirk

Self-taught fashion photographer whose instincts paid off as he captured supermodels and celebrities

Brad Pitt had missed his alarm call and was still asleep in bed when Neil Kirk turned up as arranged for a photoshoot in Argentina with the Hollywood actor. Eventually, Pitt, who was shooting the 1997 film *Seven Years in Tibet*, came to the door looking dishevelled and with his hair all over the place.

He apologised, swiftly dressed and was about to comb his hair when Kirk suggested he should leave it how it was. They made their way out into the mountains and with Pitt's wild mop making him almost unrecognisable, Kirk proceeded to take a set of memorable pictures that have since graced countless magazine covers.

It was typical of a photographer who took technically brilliant pictures of the world's most beautiful people, but who disliked perfection and whose trademark was a little grit alongside the glamour.

Kirk spent more than 30 years shooting covers for magazines such as *Elle*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Marie Claire*, *GQ* and

*Vanity Fair* as well as working for *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. When Anna Wintour became editor of *Vogue*, Kirk was one of the first photographers she hired. "She wanted dynamism, everything that *Vogue* wasn't at the time, and Neil gave her that," a colleague said.

In the late 1980s and 1990s he worked with a roster of supermodels including Cindy Crawford, Claudia Schiffer, Linda Evangelista, Helena Christensen and Christy Turlington. Yet he eschewed the clotheshorse style of fashion photography and his pictures were full of life and movement, often with unexpected quirks and idiosyncrasies.

His photos of Naomi Campbell were a case in point. "I remember her at 16 dancing on a chair in Saint-Germain with a cine-camera in one hand, a bottle of champagne in the other and laughing herself silly," he recalled.

The result, as Sarah Bailey, his editor at *Elle*, put it, was "an image of sheer, life-affirming joy".

PHOTOGRAPH BY NEIL KIRK



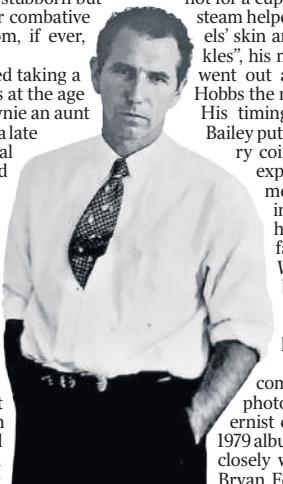
A tousled Brad Pitt in 1997 and a glamorous Cindy Crawford, above, in 1987 exemplify the creativity of Neil Kirk, below. He also worked with a fresh-faced Claudia Schiffer



Kirk was a restless intellectual whose wide hinterland of interest in philosophy, theology, history, poetry and art provided a rich lexicon of references in the imagery of his pictures. Commissioning editors would give him a brief, but as Iain R Webb, who worked with him as a fashion journalist on *The Times*, noted, "you never quite knew what you were going to get". If Kirk felt he had a better idea, he would follow his instincts. He could be stubborn but was never arrogant or combative and his editors seldom, if ever, had any complaints.

Although he recalled taking a photo of Niagara Falls at the age of ten with a box Brownie an aunt had given him, he was a late starter as a professional photographer and entirely self-taught.

After reading social anthropology at Durham University and film history at the Royal College of Art, he had worked as a clinical psychologist and hated it. By the late 1970s and into his thirties he was working as an art director at an advertising firm when he met Michael Roberts, the fashion editor of *The Sunday*



Times, at a party. When Kirk expressed an interest in taking pictures, Roberts commissioned his first shoot on the spot. Tony McGee, a fellow photographer and film-maker, recalled him visiting his studio to pick up tips, such as how to balance the use of flash and natural daylight.

Kirk was particularly impressed by the fact that McGee kept a kettle on the boil the whole time he was shooting — not for a cup of tea but because the steam helped to hydrate the model's skin and "reduced the wrinkles", his mentor explained. "He went out and bought a Russell Hobbs the next day," McGee said. His timing was perfect, for as Bailey put it, "his career trajectory coincided with a time of expansion and excitement in fashion publishing". Later in his career he was offered the job of fashion editor at UK Vogue by Liz Tilberis, but declined, preferring the unshackled life of an itinerant lensman.

One of his earliest commissions was to photograph the postmodernist cover of Roxy Music's 1979 album *Manifesto*. Working closely with the band's singer Bryan Ferry, who acted as art

director, he shot a tableau of shop mannequins staging a party, dressed by the fashion designer Antony Price.

In a neat twist on the theme, Kirk subsequently photographed a series of human models wearing Price's clothes which were projected on to the window display of the designer's futuristic Plaza store in Chelsea's Kings Road instead of the customary mannequins.

Kirk went on to shoot two more Roxy Music album covers, including the extraordinary dreamlike imagery that appeared on the group's final studio album, *Avalon* (1982). Shot at dawn on a lake at the family home of Ferry's girlfriend and future wife Lucy Halmor, it featured her wearing a medieval helmet with a falcon perched on her gloved hand. In true rock'n'roll style it took a week to shoot before Ferry felt he had the right image. Ferry nicknamed him "Captain Kirk" and they remained close friends for more than 40 years.

By the mid-1980s Kirk had moved to Los Angeles, where he photographed such Hollywood A-listers as Angelina Jolie, Michelle Pfeiffer, Samuel L Jackson, Jeff Bridges and Mickey Rourke.

Other subjects in his eclectic portfolio included Helen Mirren, Hillary Clinton, Oscar Pistorius and David Beckham.

A great raconteur who subscribed to Joan Didion's nostrum that "we tell ourselves stories in order to live", he had often wickedly witty tales about many of those he photographed. The stories, most of which contained at least a grain of truth, enlivened the dinner parties he

### He became close friends with Bryan Ferry, who called him Captain Kirk

hosted with his wife, the fashion stylist Vivienne Palmer, with whom he regularly worked.

They married in 1989 and she survives him, along with their 18-year-old son, Sholto. Kirk moved back to the UK in 2013 so that his son could be educated in Britain without being sent to a boarding school, as he had been.

Neil Kirk was born in Newcastle in July 1946, the son of Elizabeth and James Kirk. His mother was Hungarian and his father a civil engineer, working on projects for the United Nations. As a result, his childhood was spent peripatetically in Colombia, Venezuela and Canada before he was sent to board at Wellington when he was 13.

He made no secret of his dislike of English parochialism and the wet and cold climate, and all his life remained an inveterate traveller who was happiest when on the road. Little fazed him on his peregrinations, even when he spent a few nights in an Algerian prison cell after he had been arrested for photographing a model in front of a church.

He enjoyed long lunches around which he constructed his work schedule and took pleasure in nurturing aspiring young photographers, always finding time even for those whom he was unable to offer a job.

His joie de vivre was evident both in his pictures and in his attitude to the job. "You are in a privileged position and you are having the time of your life," he said of the photographer's lot. "And if you are not there is something wrong with you."

**Neil Kirk, photographer, was born on July 20, 1946. He died of undisclosed causes on August 8, 2022, aged 76**

**'We wanted to celebrate both of our cultures'**  
**Marriages and engagements**  
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## Albert Woodfox

Inmate who campaigned for prison reform after spending 43 years in solitary confinement

Albert Woodfox had grown so used to restraints that when he was released from prison he did not so much walk free as shuffle out as if shackled by invisible leg irons.

Woodfox endured 43 years in solitary confinement, believed to be more than any other inmate in the history of the United States. He was locked in a 6ft by 9ft cell for 23 hours a day. For the remaining hour he was permitted to walk around a fenced-in concrete yard while shackled. He was mocked, beaten and tear-gassed by guards who subjected him to invasive daily strip searches.

To bring the smallest semblance of variety into his days, Woodfox alternated between eating breakfast standing up or sitting down. He often slept sitting upright and paced the floor in efforts to stem or stave off panic attacks.

Convicted of murder but always maintaining his innocence, Woodfox spent most of his life in the Louisiana state penitentiary. A former slave plantation known as Angola, it is the largest maximum security prison in the US, similar in land size to the city of Nottingham. When Woodfox was first sent there in the Sixties it was no less racially segregated and violent than the Deep South in which he grew up. The guards were all white and the black inmates were forced to cut sugar cane and pick cotton. Today it is still a prison farm.

He began shoplifting after school and joined a gang, moving from petty crimes to more serious offences including assault. Sentenced to two years in jail for stealing a car, Woodfox escaped and stole a cement mixer, which proved a rather conspicuous and slow choice of getaway vehicle. He was caught and sent to Angola. Out on parole, he was arrested for armed robbery and handed a 50-year prison sentence. He escaped from court by grabbing a pistol hidden by a friend in the paper towel dispenser in the lavatories and handcuffing his guards. He fled to New York, where he was accused of robbery by a bookmaker and arrested.

In prison he met members of the Black Panther Party and joined the group after hearing their views on black nationalism and admiring their fearless style. Returned to Angola, he formed a Black Panthers chapter and began to recruit and "resist, educate and agitate". One of his primary aims was to end the rampant culture of rape and sexual slavery that targeted young inmates.

In 1972 a white prison guard, Brent Miller, was stabbed 32 times in a black dormitory. Woodfox and another Black Panther, Herman Wallace, were accused of murder. Despite a lack of evidence they were convicted by an all-white jury and sentenced to life imprisonment, largely on the testimony of a serial rapist serving a life sentence. The warden later secured him a pardon.

"Herman and I had the audacity to start a Black Panther party in a prison," Woodfox told *The Times* in 2019. "We

were challenging practices and beliefs that went all the way back to the times of slavery. They wanted to contain my influence."

Woodfox, Wallace and another party member, Robert King, who was convicted of murdering a fellow inmate, were dubbed the Angola Three for their friendship — they shouted conversations from their cells — and their defiance in solitary confinement.

Albert Woodfox was born in New Orleans in 1947, to Leroy Woodfox, a dry cleaner, and a 17-year-old mother, Ruby Edwards. He was raised by his mother and James Mable, a chef in the US Navy whom she married. Functionally illiterate, she left Mable after he became a violent drunk, working as a bartender and as a prostitute to support her family. In 1994 Woodfox was denied permission to attend his mother's funeral: "That was the only time I ever came close to breaking."

In the early 2000s he was visited by Dame Anita Roddick, founder of The Body Shop (obituary, September 11, 2007), who paid for legal help for the Angola Three. King was released in 2001 after his conviction was overturned. As doubts grew about the convictions of Woodfox and Wallace and their health declined, Louisiana officials fought against their release. In 2008, Buddy Caldwell, the state attorney-general, told National Public Radio that Woodfox was "the most dangerous person on the planet".

After more than 40 years in solitary confinement, the dying Wallace was freed in 2013 after a judge ruled that he had not received a fair trial. He was re-indicted on the murder charge two days after his release and died of liver cancer the following day. Woodfox struck a deal with prosecutors in which he pleaded no contest to manslaughter in Miller's death and was freed in February 2016, on the day he turned 69.

He is survived by a daughter, Brenda, from a teenage relationship, and his partner, Leslie George. They met in 1999 when she was a journalist covering his story and she co-authored his 2019 book, *Solitary*.

Woodfox moved into a modest house in New Orleans. He became an advocate for prison reform and racial equality and said that he became a "better human being" as a result of his ordeal, during which he studied law and helped other inmates as best he could. "We used the time to develop the tools that we needed to survive, to be part of society and humanity rather than becoming bitter and angry and consumed by a thirst for revenge."

**Albert Woodfox, solitary confinement prisoner, was born on February 19, 1947. He died of complications from Covid-19 on August 4, 2022, aged 75**

## Readers' Lives

### Marriages and engagements

# 'We wanted to celebrate our cultures'

Rina Lila, 33, who works for a global financial institution, and **Vikram Kumar**, 41, founder of Kuvavi Partners, an asset management company, were married on May 27, 2022, at The Bodrum Edition hotel in Turkey

Rina and Vikram wanted their wedding to be a multicultural extravaganza. Their four-day celebrations included Albanian and Indian elements as well as nods to Vikram's love of 1980s films. The soundtrack from *Top Gun* played as he and his ushers arrived at the beachside ceremony by speedboat.

Rina's entrance was equally dramatic. Her 14 bridesmaids led the way along the mirrored aisle, then she appeared in a white ballgown, arm-in-arm with her parents, as violinists played Elvis's *Can't Help Falling in Love*. Four ballerinas danced behind holding her veil.

"We wanted a big party while keeping the traditional elements of our cultures," says Vikram. His mother is from Kenya and his father from Punjab in India. They emigrated to Britain, where Vikram was born in south London. He studied history at the University of Cambridge and, in 2016, founded the asset management company, Kuvavi Partners.

Born into an Albanian family in Kosovo, Rina left her family at 14, just after the Kosovo War, to study at an American boarding school. She had won a scholarship but did not speak any English when she turned up alone in Los Angeles. "It was one of the best decisions," she says.

She studied political science at Whittier College in California and did an MA in international affairs at Columbia University in New York. After two years working for the United Nations, she joined a global finance institution. "We are both quite driven," says Vikram. "We have a healthy approach of wanting to make one another's lives easier."

He met Rina at an industry awards dinner in London in 2019 — she handed out an award on stage and he approached her at the bar afterwards. "It was an instant connection," he says. On saying goodbye, Vikram made the bold claim to her colleagues that he had met his future wife.

Their first date was lunch at a restaurant near his flat on the South Bank followed by a walk around



**Vikram and Rina at their Indian ceremony; left, at their "western" wedding; and right, celebrating in Bodrum**

Borough Market. "We talked about what it was like coming from families with a rich cultural heritage," he says. "We found a lot of parallels in our story."

Rina was then living opposite Lord's cricket ground in north London which was a bonus for Vikram, who won a cricket blue. She moved into his flat in 2020. "For someone who had been a bachelor quite a long time, I knew Rina was the one I wanted to marry," he says. "I tend to think everything through a hundred times, but on this one I didn't. I knew what I wanted."

He appreciates his thoughtfulness and generosity. "From the moment I met him, he made me his world," she says. "He is a cheerleader. His work ethic, values and success are inspiring. On top of it all, he is great looking. I've found my home with Vikram."

He planned to propose on their

one-year anniversary in a hot-air balloon over the Masai Mara game reserve in Kenya, but Covid scuppered his plans. They got as far as Surrey, where they rented a house. Vikram arranged for the pool area to be decorated while they were out. On returning for dinner, he led Rina outside and proposed.

They went to Bodrum, in Turkey, that summer and decided that was where they would get married. "The energy is fantastic," he says. They booked The Bodrum Edition hotel for four days and invited 300 guests (but no children) from across the globe. The celebrations included two wedding ceremonies.

Guests held white parasols for the "western wedding" on the beach, which was officiated by one of Rina's professors from Whittier College. The bride wore a white dress by a Kosovan designer. Although a "terrible" singer, Vikram serenaded Rina with Peter Cetera's *Glory of Love*. Their siblings and a colleague of Vikram's gave readings. The



newlyweds danced into the dinner to Whitney Houston's *How Will I Know* as fireworks lit up the sky. There was an Albanian band and guests performed a flashmob (organised by Vikram's cousins) to Master KG's *Jerusalema*.

The couple had spent months practising their first dance, a tango, to Prince's *When Doves Cry*. The dancing started on a platform above the swimming pool and ended at 4am in the hotel nightclub.

The third day was a colourful mehndi party. There was a giant swing and female guests had henna painted on their hands. Six of Vikram's aunts had choreographed a dance to the Pussycat Dolls' *Don't Cha*.

The fourth day was a Hindu ceremony around a fire under a rose-covered mandap on the beach. The groom's party processed in with drums and flares before the parents exchanged garlands. Rina wore a traditional red lehenga. At the gala dinner, her bridesmaids and his cousins performed a dance.

"It was the most incredible high to see everyone enjoying such a magical time together," says Rina.

Vikram says his new wife has an "amazing mix of humility, selflessness and loyalty, but with determination and ambition" — a rare combination, he says, for somebody with her abilities and competence. "I feel very safe in trusting her with my heart."

If you would like to feature a wedding or engagement or the birth of a child on these pages, call 020 7782 5583, Mon-Fri, to discuss the content and cost, or email: [readerslives@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:readerslives@thetimes.co.uk) [thetimes.co.uk/static/terms-and-conditions](http://thetimes.co.uk/static/terms-and-conditions)

### New readers



**Ludo Julian Boylan Barran** was born on September 2, 2022, at home in Kilburn, north London, to **Eliza Johnston**, 32, and **Cosmo Barran**, 31



While she was pregnant, Eliza read about how primal a process giving birth is. "We've been doing it for centuries and nowadays home births have the lowest risk of things going wrong," she reflects. Enlisting the help of the NHS home-birth team at St Mary's Paddington, she gave birth to Ludo without medical intervention, in a pool in a kitchen lit by fairy lights. "You have to dig deep," she says, "but when you shut off your mind your body takes over. It's just magical." Afterwards Ludo was weighed on the sofa and they all crawled into bed with toast and tea, as the midwives helped her to breastfeed. Ludo's name, which means "playful" in Latin, reflects his parents' plans for a carefree future. "I just hope that he's happy today and tomorrow," says Cosmo. "And that he sleeps tonight."

**Coralie Beatrice Coyle Gray** was born on August 13, 2022, at University College Hospital in London to **Clare Gray (née Coyle)**, 34, and **Robert Gray**, 34



Clare and Robert spent nine months flicking through books to find the perfect name for their first child and the first grandchild to both of their parents. Coralie, a French name, stood out because they loved the nickname Cora. They wanted to give more meaning to her middle name, so they chose Beatrice, which in Latin means "she who brings happiness".

It's been an active first few weeks for Cora. Their black labrador Tala likes to drop her ball at Cora's feet and Clare and Rob have enjoyed walking her around Hampstead Heath and Highgate. Rob is also looking forward to taking her to the zoo when she is old enough and, having watched lots of cricket together and bought her a cuddly lion after the Lionesses' win in the Euro 2022 football tournament, he hopes she will grow up loving sport.

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## 'She has her father's eyes and face shape but her mother's lips and nose'

PIPPA SUZANNE DRACOTT WAS BORN ON MAY 28, 2020, AT BROOMFIELD HOSPITAL IN CHELMSFORD, ESSEX, TO CLAIRE, 30, AND GARY DRACOTT, 30

THE TIMES

Remembering loved ones

# Level-headed construction guru, sailor and cyclist

## Richard Petrie, 63

When Richard Petrie was in his late teens he was sent on a biology field trip to the island of Spitsbergen, part of Norway. In the course of the study a snowstorm came out of nowhere to envelop the group in a dense whiteout. Separated from the main party, the students were unable to make anything out, let alone retrace the path back to the base camp. Fortunately for the group, in earlier years Richard had been sent by his parents on summer mountain training courses in Tulloch, Scotland, and the situation gave him the chance to deploy what he had learnt of finding his way in bad conditions. Taking the lead and keeping the group calm and all together, he ensured their safe return.

It was an experience that made an impression on Richard as a young adult, and he recognised through it the importance of gaining the trust of others and the usefulness of having a sound plan and following it through with confidence. It would serve him well in his later roles as the managing director and chief executive of companies at the heart of the construction industry.

In his mid-fifties Richard came to the attention of recruiters who were looking for an executive to lead the development of a new business opportunity. The global construction industry had long been considered inefficient and fragmented, and the concept behind buildingSMART was to improve efficiency, reduce waste and prevent the dominance of any

single software vendor. This could be achieved, it was believed, through industry standardisation and agnostic software to ensure data-sharing while bringing more people from different countries and departments together. When Richard was approached the idea was in its infancy, with neither a business model, chief executive nor even an office. Richard was asked to come up with all three.

There was an initial hesitation but before long Richard had found himself a chair, a desk and a phone. He found the early days working from his house in Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, lonely but he concentrated on the plan — one that he followed over the years almost to the letter — and worked out the cost of running a business, including how to finance himself and future staff.

Crucially, he convinced other organisations to pledge their financial support. After five years he could hire an operations director, a marketing director and a business administrator. After nine years the company has 14 staff and the foundations have been laid for it to move forward in driving digital transformation in the industry.

The eldest of four children, Richard



Richard Petrie credited his hearty laugh with defusing tricky situations. Left, as a teenager on Spitsbergen



was born in London in 1959 to Kathryn (née Tutor-Edwards) and Graham, who were both doctors. The family lived in Cambridge and holidays were spent catching crabs and dinghy sailing in Blakeney, Norfolk. A love of the outdoors remained important to Richard, and he climbed mountains, skied and latterly cycled, including around India and the Balearic Islands. In 2018 he sailed the final leg of the New York to

Liverpool Clipper Race with his son and in November last year he crewed a friend's yacht in the annual ARC rally from Gran Canaria to St Lucia.

After St Faith's School and The Leys, Cambridge, Richard spent a year in Australia before going to Trinity College, Cambridge, to read engineering. In his second year at university he met Jane (née Burns), a nurse and health visitor, on a Greek holiday that he took on the spur of the moment. They married in 1986 and had three children: Michael, a

contracts manager; Charlotte, a facilities co-ordinator; and Madelaine, a business consultant.

One of Richard's first jobs after Cambridge was as an engineer for Schlumberger Wireline in Algeria. The remuneration was good, he said, but finding little to spend his money on in the country he invested in a flat in Clapham, south London. After Algeria he worked as an electronics engineer including designing transatlantic optic cabling systems for Standard Telephones and Cables.

By 1987 he had decided to study for an MBA at Insead, Fontainebleau, France, and he spent the next two decades gaining experience in the engineering industry. He was in Indonesia with his young family for four years in the early 1990s, working for Trafalgar House and negotiating a toll road from Jakarta to Bandung, its second largest city. He then ran a portfolio of small construction companies for the Norwegian company Kvaerner before preparing its shipyards, which built cruise liners, for sale.

Back in Britain he worked for BAA, working across Heathrow and Gatwick airport projects. From 2006 he became the chief executive of two companies in the oil extraction business and for a year he provided consultancy to Lloyd's Register Group on its energy, marine and transportation sectors.

Despite an illustrious career Richard was primarily a family man, fond of sharing a bottle of wine and sure to acknowledge the support of his wife in his enterprises. In business he showed a quick wit, an uncompromising fairness and an ability to navigate complex ideas with clarity.

He had natural charm and the ability to interact with all types, even when dialogue was not always possible. Key to his personality was his laugh. More of a roar, it filled silences in challenging meetings and cracked through any situation, good or bad, ensuring that he was usually surrounded by others. When he was asked recently by a management training company what his greatest asset was, he replied that it was his laugh.

If you would like to commemorate the life of a relative, friend or colleague, call 020 7782 5583 to discuss the content and cost, or email: [readerslives@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:readerslives@thetimes.co.uk). [thetimes.co.uk/static/terms-and-conditions](http://thetimes.co.uk/static/terms-and-conditions)

## Gentle-mannered engineer and moderniser in the diamond trade

## John Lawrence, 79

When the electronics engineer John Lawrence joined the diamond industry in the late 1970s, much of its processing methods were still being handed down from generation to generation: cleaving a diamond, for example, involved making a small notch, placing a thin blade in it and tapping with a hammer.

Recruited by a branch of De Beers to explore a switch to automation, John had first to learn the basics of the trade. He was transferred to a workshop in northeast Belgium and said he spent six months mastering the art of polishing a diamond.

Nonetheless, as the bridge between the old and new technologies, John had learnt enough to realise how unusual the physical properties of diamonds were and how complex the manufacturing process. Within a



John Lawrence improved safety standards at Indian diamond factories

short time research and development efforts produced patents for an automatic polishing machine, diamond measuring systems and laser sawing. De Beers was starting to modernise the industry and John was at its heart.

At the same time the diamond world, once restricted to Belgium, Israel, Johannesburg and New York, was taking off in India. As factories sprang up in Mumbai and Surat, De Beers saw the need for someone to co-ordinate the key players in a field with more than a million workers.

John's polite, gentle manner and reputation for never getting flustered placed him in pole position as the De Beers manufacturing consultant.

At the start there were concerns about the health and safety practices in the noisy, dusty factories. Workers were sometimes using lasers without proper eye protection and there were incidents of people being exposed to harmful chemicals. A few fatal accidents were caused when faulty cast-iron polishing wheels burst at high speed.

John worked on providing new guidelines and industry standards were launched that included

minimum thickness for the diamond wheels, hearing protection, dust extraction and eyeglasses.

John was born in 1943 in Acton, west London. His father, Charles, was an engineer and his mother, Madeleine (née Forrester), worked in a laundrette ironing shirts. At Acton and then Southall Technical College John studied for a HNC in electronics. It was not until he was in his late fifties that he gained a degree in psychology from the Open University.

One of his first jobs was in Maidenhead, Berkshire, where he worked for a company that made semiconductor devices. There he met Marion Smith, a secretary. She travelled for a year around the US and on her return John, who had waited patiently, proposed. They had one child, Simon, who works on infrastructure projects. Marion predeceased John in 2011.

Much of John's work involved travelling to India, Africa and Asia; he liked walking holidays in Nepal, France and along the coastal paths of Britain. In Italy, they bought and renovated a farmhouse that they used for holidays and they collected art. John also liked to listen to Sibelius and Shostakovich at full volume on a classic Quad 1950s hi-fi system.

Of the pair John was the more introverted, but an understated manner belied the quiet efficiency with which he brought projects to fruition. It was partly due to his open confidence in others' abilities and he was a good mentor. Several of his employees got to the top of the profession.

As hosts, Marion and John treated colleagues like family. Testament to their warmth, one former employee, given a leaving gift of a small oil painting, still hangs it in his different offices around the world.

# Register

## Births, Marriages and Deaths

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**HENCEFORTH** there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. 2 Timothy 4, 8

Bible verses are provided by the Bible Society

### Births

**CHISENGA-PHILLIPPS** on 7th August 2022 to Katy (née Chisenga) and Jack, a daughter, Georgiana Lucy Mukuka Lisabet.

**KIRBY** on 15th August 2022 to Alexandra (née Fitzpatrick) and Alexander, a son, Hugo Alexander Oliver Kirby.

**LIDDELL** on 20th August 2022 to Frances Rickard and Simon, a daughter, Bridget Abigail.

**VAUGHAN** on 29th August 2022 to Arabella (née Landon) and Nicholas, a daughter, Aurora Elizabeth Lucia, sister to Allegra, Sebastian and Giacomo.

### Forthcoming Marriages

**MR A. J. BLAIN**

**AND MISS S. K. A. ASKEW**

The engagement is announced between Alexander, eldest son of Paul and Margaret Blain of Windlesham, Surrey, and Sara, younger daughter of Richard and Nadzieja of Shottley, Suffolk.

**MR J. G. E. JARVIS**

**AND MISS S. R. A. DUCK**

The engagement is announced between James, son of Ms Sandra Humphrey and Mr Russell Jarvis of Crakehall, North Yorkshire, and Susannah, youngest daughter of Mrs Bethan and Mr Jonathan Duck of Chinnor Hill, Oxfordshire.

**MISS A. T. A. O'RORKE  
AND MR Z. A. VAN GILS**

Amicia and Zeno announce their forthcoming wedding on the 15th of September 2022 at the Chelsea Old Town Hall

**MR C. C. G. MACKENZIE**

**AND MISS G. S. HODGSON**

The engagement is announced between Caspar, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robert Mackenzie of Fulham, London, and Georgie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoff Hodgson of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

**MR O. W. PRIDDLE**

**AND MISS J. A. MOYERS**

The engagement is announced between Mr Oliver William Priddle of Highweek, Devon, and Miss Joanna Alicia Moyers of Billinghurst, West Sussex.

**MR J. M. GARLAND**

**AND MISS Y. PETROVA**

The engagement is announced between James, son of Michael and Wendy Garland of London, and Yoana, daughter of Dimitar and the late Pepa Petrova of Svetlograd, Bulgaria.

### Marriages

**MISS N. YESILDAGLAR**

**AND MR J. DAWSON**

The marriage took place on 30th July 2022, at the Bosphorus Palace, Istanbul, between Nisan and Jeannot in the presence of their parents, family and many friends. A wonderful, joyous occasion and a chance for everyone to celebrate a perfect partnership and to have a lot of fun.

**MISS L. V. KEARNEY**

**AND MR S. IWANCZUK**

The marriage of Lucy Victoria Kearney, daughter of Mr Martin Kearney and the late Mrs Susan Kearney of Great Wakering, Essex, to Mr Simon Iwanczuk, of Bath, Somerset, will take place on Saturday, 10th September 2022 in Southend-on-sea, Essex.

### Anniversaries

**DOUGLAS : DIEBEL**

Ian and Melissa Douglas of Ruggwick, West Sussex, are celebrating their first wedding anniversary on September 11th. They were united in marriage last year at St George's Church in Benenden, Kent. They are joined by the recent addition to their family, Nathan William Alexander, born 8th July 2022 at 17:02.

### Deaths

**ADAMS** AVM (retd) Michael Keith CB, AFC, FRAeS, died peacefully on 30th August 2022, aged 88. Deary loved and best friend of Sue, father and father-in-law of Jill and Tony, Richard and Jackie, Ian and Frances, and very proud Grandpa. A Thanksgiving service will be held on Saturday, 15th October in Amberley, West Sussex.

**CRAMISIE** James Arthur (Jim) died peacefully at home on 5th September 2022, aged 89. Much-loved husband, father and grandfather. Thanksgiving service at St Michael's Church, Alton, Wiltshire, at 2pm on 23rd September 2022. No flowers please.

**FARRER-BROWN** Heather Josephine (née Gale) died suddenly on 28th August 2022, aged 90. Daughter of the late Nancy and Roy of Hermitage, Newbury, sister of Richard (dec'd 2021), devoted mother of Catherine (Nunan) and Robert and grandmother of Tom, Kate and Jamie. Cremation service at Reading Crematorium, All Hallows Road, Reading RG4 5LP at 11.15am on Friday 30th September 2022. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to Cancer Research or the Alzheimer's Society.

**GUTHRIE** Nigel, Scottish international pride player, computing genius, beloved dad, husband and brother died peacefully on 29th August. His funeral will be at St Joseph's, Tolls Cross, Glasgow, on Friday, 16th September. [bit.ly/nigel-guthrie](http://bit.ly/nigel-guthrie)

**HOOPER** Carolyn "Gran" (née Esson) passed away on 30th August 2022. Much-loved mother of Harry and widow of Michael. Cremation at Putney Vale Cemetery on 23rd September at 11.30am. November on a date to be announced.

**MCMILLAN-MOSS** Desmond Rupert passed away peacefully on 2nd September 2022, aged 63. Loving husband to Caroline, father to Gregory and Jennifer and brother to Nigel.

**PARSONS** Julia Passed away peacefully on Saturday 27th August, aged 89. Loving wife of Ian, devoted mother of Rupert and William and much-loved mother-in-law of Samantha. She will be greatly missed by all that loved and knew her. Funeral service to take place on Friday, 16th September, 3pm, at South Oxfordshire Crematorium, Garford, OX13 5PA. A service of Thanksgiving will be held on Saturday, 17th September, 12pm at St Michael's Church, Blewbury, OX11 9QJ. Family flowers only please, donation if desired for Oxfordshire Mind. Inquiries to M&S Didcot Funeral Service 01235 510292.

**PATTISON** John Harmer on 5th September 2022, aged 91, peacefully in Abbotts Barton Care Home, Winchester. Loving father to Edward and William and grandfather to Freddie, Mary, Louisa and Honor. Funeral service on October 1st, details from R J Bray & Son, Funeral Directors, Wadebridge, tel 01208 812606. Family flowers only.

**PITT-Lewis** Helen Jean (née Orme) on 21st August 2022, aged 97. Deary loved wife of the late John Pitt-Lewis of Monmouth, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

**PRINCE** Charles Hamilton (Harvey) on 27th August 2022, aged 84. Passed away peacefully in the care of Les Charières Nursing Home, Jersey, much-loved husband of Brigitte (Bee), father of Guy and Nicky and four grandchildren. There will be a private family cremation followed by a celebration of his life to be held in Jersey.

**SEBRIGHT** Lady Victoria (née White) of the Ashes-Bostock died peacefully on 11th September 2022, aged 88. Beloved mother to Sophia, mother-in-law to Dominic and grandmother to Alex, Tash and Bella. Funeral service at St Mary's Church, Compton Pauncefoot, Somerset, on Thursday, 22nd September 2022. Family flowers only.

**SMITH** Jacqueline Victoria (Vicki, née Crawley). Died peacefully in Guernsey on 2nd September 2022. Deary beloved wife of James, much-loved mother of Alex and Nicholas and grandmother of Eleanor, Isobel, Charlotte, George, Hester and Alfie. Funeral service at The Town Church, St Peter Port, Guernsey, on Thursday, 15th September at 1pm. All inquiries to Argent Funeral Care on 01481 233155.

**SQUIRE** Nicola June Lamboll (née Webb) died on 5th September 2022, aged 72. Beloved wife of Jonathan, devoted mother to Amanda and Thomas and adored grandmother "Deeda" to Milo and Shotto. Private family funeral. A service of thanksgiving will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Crookham Hill, Friday 4th November at 11.30am.

**TANNER** Roger John Radcliffe MBE in his 101st year. Uncle of Frederic and Rosemary. A good friend and patron of many organisations. Private family funeral. Service to celebrate Roger's life on 19th November 2022 at Saddleworth Church at 2pm. Donations in Roger's memory to Saddleworth Museum c/o G Barlow and Sons Ltd, 17-19 Union Street West, Oldham, OL8 1DQ to whom all further inquiries should be made. Tel: 0161 624 4301.

**TURNER** John William. Peacefully on Monday, 29th August at the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice, Glasgow. Much-loved husband and soulmate of the late Audrey. Much-loved father of Simon and Susan. Loving father-in-law of Victoria and David. Devoted and proud grandfather of Audrey and Maxim; Emma, Jonny and Mark. Dear brother of Jane and brother-in-law of Michael. Companion and friend of Winnie. Memorial to many. Funeral on Thursday, 22nd September 2022. Private commitment for immediate family only. Thanksgiving service at Sherbrook Mossspark Parish Church, Glasgow, G41 5AD, at 11.30am, all welcome. No flowers please.

**WALKER** Claire (née Sanderson) died suddenly on Thursday, 25th August 2022. Adored wife of Tom and mother of Angus, Patricia and the late Fiona. Loving daughter, sister, sister-in-law, mother-in-law, aunt and caring friend to so many. On Thursday, 22nd September all her friends are welcome to a service to celebrate Claire's life at 2.30pm in St Andrew Blackadder, North Berwick, which will take place following a private burial. Family flowers only please; donations if desired to Mind. For details please contact William Purves, Funeral Directors on 01620 823903.

**WAYGOOD** Jennifer Jane (Petey) (née Morshead) on 25th August 2022, aged 74. Loving mother to Nichola, Victoria, Barney and Philippa, beloved grandmother to Violet, James and Otto, devoted partner of Anthony. Friend and inspiration to many more. Memorial to many. Funeral on Thursday, 22nd September. [celebratingjane.weebly.com](http://celebratingjane.weebly.com)

### Thanksgiving Services

**CRAIG** David J A, a Service of Thanksgiving will be held at Our Lady of Victories, 235a Kensington High Street, London W8 6SA on 14th October 2022 at noon.

### Court Circular



**Balmoral Castle**  
8th September, 2022  
The Queen died peacefully this afternoon.

**Clarence House**  
9th September, 2022  
The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The King at Buckingham Palace this afternoon.

The Duke of Norfolk (Earl Marshal) was received by His Majesty.

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# Faith gave scaffolding for the Queen's life of service

## Credo

Catherine Pepinster



**T**hink of Elizabeth II's Coronation and most of us will recall a photo or film footage we have seen of an extraordinarily grand occasion, with the monarch in all her finery, wearing St Edward's Crown, and holding the sceptre and orb. But there was another moment that we have never seen, deemed too sacred to be shown, and hidden by a canopy during the Westminster Abbey ceremony. Then, Elizabeth was divested of her robes and, in a simple white linen shift, was anointed as Queen. It was a moment of deep religious significance, akin to a priestly ordination, when she effectively handed over her life to God. Her youth served to enhance the moment even more as one of sacrifice, but a sacrifice made possible by her receiving God's blessings.

The ancient coronation ceremony has always involved anointing and the taking of oaths, promising to serve God and the people, but we can be sure that they had especial meaning for Elizabeth II. Five years earlier, when she turned 21, and was on tour in South Africa with her parents, George VI and Queen Elizabeth, and her sister, Princess Margaret, she made a pledge to serve God and the people, for her whole life, whether it be long or short. And she finished saying: "God make good my vow."

Her biographer, Ben Pimlott, later compared it to a nun-like promise, and it certainly indicated that for the Queen, being heir to the throne and then monarch was most definitely not a job, nor was it an official position. It was a vocation.

I'm not sure the Queen

ever had much to do with nuns — although Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor hosted a lunch for her once and placed a nun beside her, much to everyone's surprise. But the cardinal knew that the nun came from an Irish family of racehorse trainers, and she and the horse-mad Queen never stopped talking.

But they would have had a great deal more in common than that: God was central to their lives; they were regular church service attenders, and their most treasured possessions were their Bibles and prayer books.

The British were used to seeing the Queen leading the nation on big religious occasions, from thanksgiving services, such as after the Falklands conflict, and her own jubilees, as well as each year at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. She would be pictured leaving church on Easter Sunday and Christmas Day. But quietly, away from the cameras, she would attend All Saints church in Windsor Great Park, or the chapel in Windsor Castle. There would be private conversations with her own spiritual advisers. If you watch Netflix's *The Crown*, you might think Billy Graham was among them; they were more likely to be found among the clergy of St George's Chapel, especially successive deans of Windsor.

Something of her efforts to live a life dedicated to following Christ became apparent through her Christmas Day messages, especially in the last 20 years or so. On Christmas Day 2000, when she pointed out to listeners that the millennium was about marking 2,000 years since Christ was born, she talked about how Christianity "provides a framework in which I tried to lead my life". Or as one who knew her well told me: "Her Christian faith provided the scaffolding of her life."

Similar sentiments were expressed in many more Christmas Day messages.

Then this summer she sent a message to the Lambeth Conference, the gathering of Anglican bishops from around the world, in which she wrote: "Throughout my life the message and teachings of Christ have been my guide." The woman at the pinnacle of British life looked to serve a power greater than herself. In other words, she was a person of great humility.

As monarch of an increasingly diverse nation, Elizabeth II recognised the importance of other faiths as well as Christianity, often mentioning them in her Christmas messages too, and encouraging their involvement in Westminster Abbey's Commonwealth Day services.

Of course, the strongest religious tie she had was with the Church of England, as its Supreme Governor. But her other title, Defender of the Faith, expressed far more of what she was about: representing and increasingly speaking up for Christianity.

It is a title that will be bestowed on her successor, King Charles III. Once he said he would prefer to adjust it to Defender of the Faith, recognising the importance of many different faiths in Britain and in the Commonwealth.

He has since suggested he will keep Defender of the Faith, perhaps understanding the importance of what his mother said in 2012, that Anglicanism "has a duty to protect the free practice of all other faiths in this country". With those words, Elizabeth II practically reinvented the purpose of the Church of England. She knew that change must come, yet she also recognised the importance of constancy. And for her, the greatest constancy was God.

Catherine Pepinster is the author of *Defenders of the Faith: The British Monarchy, Religion and the Next Coronation*, published by Hodder and Stoughton

## Readers' Lives

**Pianist who blazed a trail for British performers in Europe**

ROSEMARIE WRIGHT, WHO DIED AGED 88, WAS FEATURED IN THE TIMES ON JULY 18, 2020

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THE TIMES

# The Times Saturday Quiz Olav Bjortomt

1 "Sangre" is the Spanish word for which bodily fluid?

2 What is the cube root of 27?

3 Born in Croydon in 1974, which supermodel has launched the wellness brand Cosmoss?

4 *Pachycereus pringlei*, aka the Mexican giant cardon, is the tallest species of which spiny desert plant?

5 Valued for its decorative beauty and electrical conductivity, which precious metal has the atomic number 47?

6 In 1991, who became Russia's first popularly elected leader?

7 St Neots and Ramsey are towns in the Huntingdonshire district of which county?

8 The Duchy of Lancaster is one of two royal duchies. What is the other?

9 *The Intelligent Woman's Guide to Socialism and Capitalism* (1928) is a non-fiction book by which Irish playwright?

10 Which Scooby-Doo character wears a signature orange ascot?

11 Which Nobel laureate died in 1960 when the Facel Vega he was a passenger in hit a tree?

12 The Glaswegian actor Rory McCann got his big break as the late 1990s face of which porridge brand?

13 Airing on Channel 4's launch night, *Five Go Mad in Dorset*



was the first episode in which TV comedy series?

14 Which French actor played Victor "the Cleaner" in the 1990 film *La Femme Nikita*?

15 According to the 2011 Census of India, which state has a population of 199,812,341?

16 Based on Richard Bissell's novel *7 1/2 Cents*, which musical features the songs *Hey There* and *Hernando's Hideaway*?

17 *Pandora's Star* (2004) and its 2005 sequel *Judas Unchained* are sci-fi novels by which British author?

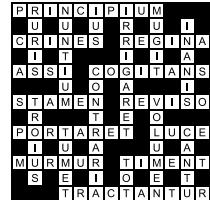
18 In 2002, which rugby league club defeated Newcastle Knights to win the first of three World Club Challenges?

19 In 1976, Muhammad Ali's last knockout win came against which ex-scaffolder from Bradford?

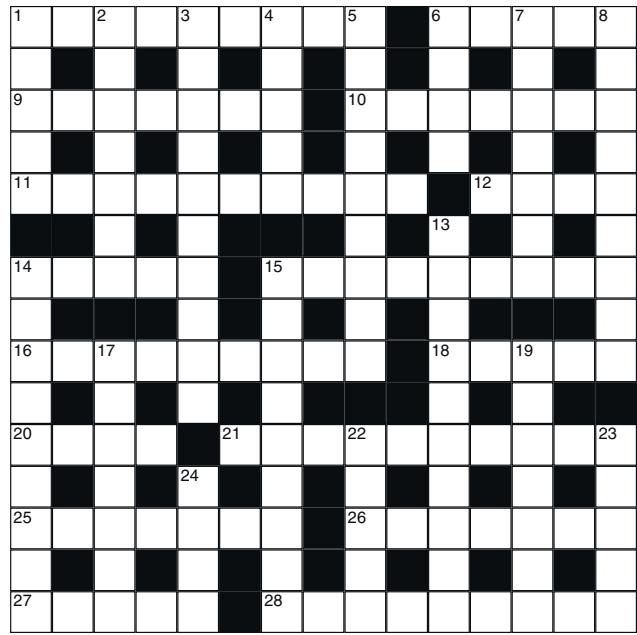
20 Which Scotch whisky distillery in Dufftown is pictured?

Answers below right

Last week's O Tempora! solution



## Times Crossword No 28,392



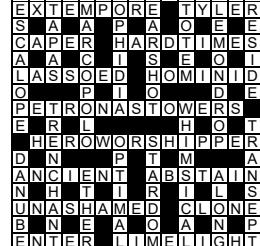
A £20 Waterstones gift voucher will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened on Thursday. Enter by post to: Times Crossword No 28,392, PO Box 2164, Colchester, Essex CO2 8LJ, or by email to: prize@thetimes.co.uk, with "Crossword 28392" in the subject line. Open to 18+, UK & ROI residents only. Winners and solutions will appear on Monday week.

Name/Address.....

### Across

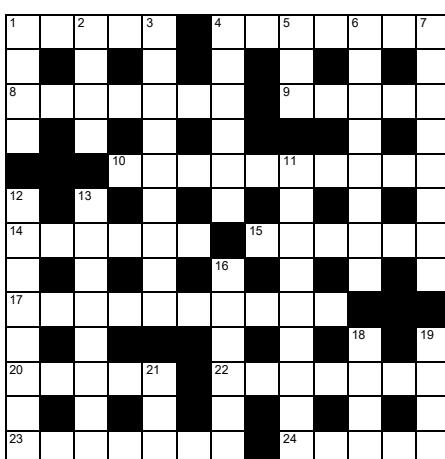
- Stop spending more — better to pursue career? (6-3)
- Draw in incomplete circle, following revolving target (5)
- Fret, having left me back in Dutch town (7)
- Mass of paper — missing rupees — held in band (7)
- Glower when motorist slows down (5,5)
- Cry from pet setter here that was painful (4)
- Rushed into blunder defending primate (5)
- One's honour-bound to suffer and carry on! (9)
- Raven protected from cold, disoriented after flying (3-6)
- Proceed, as in "proceed against" (5)
- Brother close to kinsfolk; that means something to pop! (4)
- Isn't going to have to cross unknown slum area (10)

### Solution No 28,391



## O Tempora! Crossword CCCLXII by Auctor

A weekly crossword for the classically minded



Clues, which may be straight or mildly cryptic, always lead to answers in Latin

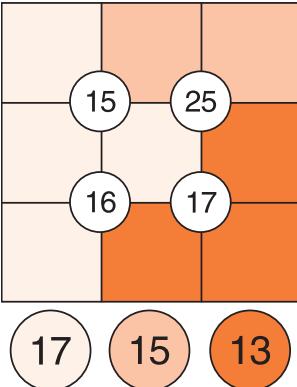
### Across

- Nil \_\_\_ bonum: don't speak ill of the dead (4)
- Antra: wherein cavemen cave (9)
- Prayers: vota et verba rogantia (6)
- Justice (3rd n.) and the court: lex (3)
- Portent of evil: ostentum, portentum, eg Aen. 5.523 (8)
- Quam principem et inventricem bellii ferunt, Cic. DND 3.53 (8)
- Possessive adj., 1st pers. gen. pl (9)
- \_\_\_ caterva: with a mob crowding round, see eg Aen. 1.497 (8)
- Blameless (people): innocentes (8)
- I look at: contueor (6)
- It will become (use passive of facio) (4)
- The riff-raff's jibber-jabber: rumor (4)
- Exclamamus "hip-hip-hooray" quandoque quis petasum induit? (3)

### Down

- Please stop what you're doing and look up this citation (4)

## Suko No 3591



Place the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding spaces, and each colour total is correct.

**Solution** MindGames in Saturday Review Quiz answers 1 Blood. 2 Three. 3 Kate Moss. 4 Cactus. 5 Silver. 6 Boris Yeltsin. 7 Cambridgeshire. 8 Duchy of Cornwall. 9 George Bernard Shaw. 10 Fred (Jones). 11 Albert Camus. 12 Scott's Porage Oats. 13 *The Comic Strip Presents...* 14 Jean Reno. 15 Uttar Pradesh. 16 *The Pajama Game*. 17 Peter F Hamilton. The books form the Commonwealth Saga. 18 Bradford Bulls. 19 Richard Dunn. 20 The Glenfiddich Distillery. Concise Quintagram answers 1 Poker 2 Grate 3 Scuttle 4 Bellows 5 The Ashes.

# In The Sunday Times tomorrow: Elizabeth the Great

A 20-page souvenir supplement on the life and times  
of Her Majesty

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# Sport

## HAMILTON LEADS SPORTING TRIBUTES TO THE QUEEN

Rebecca Clancy  
Motor Racing Correspondent

Lewis Hamilton described the Queen as a "symbol of hope" as he led sport's tributes following her death.

Formula One drivers at Monza held a minute's silence and wore black armbands before practice yesterday. There will be another tribute before the start of the Italian Grand Prix tomorrow.

"She was truly an iconic leader, an inspiration and a reassuring presence for most, if not all, of our lives," Hamilton said on social media.

"Since the sad news yesterday, I've been reflecting on her incredible life. She was a symbol of hope for so many and she served her country with dignity, dedication and kindness. She was truly like no other and I'm grateful to have lived during her time. Her legacy will be long-lasting and her passing deeply felt."

"I had the incredible honour of being able to spend time with her. It is something I'll never forget. Rest in peace."

Racing tributes at the delayed St Leger, page 11



Hamilton adjusts his black armband before Formula One drivers held a minute's silence

## Cricket right to play on

Return of Test can be fitting memorial, says Mike Atherton

PAGE 6



# Football criticised over shutdown

● Premier League matches cancelled despite government go-ahead ● Test match and rugby games to take place today

Martyn Ziegler, Matt Lawton,  
Elizabeth Ammon, Alex Lowe,  
Martin Hardy

Football has been criticised for cancelling every match this weekend in response to the death of the Queen.

The blanket suspension, which applies from the Premier League all the way down to most children's fixtures at a grassroots level, is in marked contrast to most other sports, in which fixtures will resume today. Professional football matches next week may also have to be postponed because of demands on police resources, especially in London, around the Queen's funeral.

The footballing shutdown was described by the Football Supporters' Association (FSA) as a "missed opportunity" for fans to pay their respects to the Queen. England's

deciding Test cricket match against South Africa at the Kia Oval will resume today, with the England captain, Ben Stokes, writing on social media: "[The Queen] loved sport [so I will] be honoured to play in her memory".

In rugby union, the Gallagher Premiership season will begin this afternoon, though last night's two games — Bristol Bears versus Bath and Sale Sharks versus Northampton Saints — were postponed and rearranged for today and tomorrow respectively.

Tomorrow's Great North Run will go ahead, while racing's St Leger will also take place, having been pushed back 24 hours. Rugby league matches will be played across the weekend.

The footballing bodies — the FA, Premier League and EFL — said they took their decision "as a mark of respect to the national sport" despite the official guidance from the government

stating that there was no obligation to postpone fixtures. The opening weekend of the Women's Super League has also been delayed.

While those in charge of the sport believe it was the right thing to do, given that the Queen had been a patron of the FA, there were also some concerns that police resources could be stretched and that any misbehaviour by even a minority of fans at matches would be hugely damaging.

The potential issues over policing have also raised concerns that football matches in mid-week and next weekend could also be affected,

particularly in the capital, depending on arrangements before the state funeral, which is expected to take place on Monday, September 19. A full midweek

EFL programme is scheduled for next week and three Premier League matches are due to be held in London next weekend.

The footballing bodies believe the postponed fixtures can be fitted in despite a packed calendar that has already been squeezed by the World Cup being played in the middle of the season. Premier League games are likely to take place on the same nights as Carabao Cup or European matches if teams are not involved in those competitions.

Government guidance states that sporting bodies

should consider calling off events on the day of the state funeral but makes it clear that "there is no obligation to cancel or postpone events and sporting fixtures, or close entertainment venues during the National Mourning period. This is at the discretion of organisations".

"As a mark of respect, and in keeping with the tone of National Mourning, organisers may wish to hold a period of silence and/or play the national anthem at the start of events or sporting fixtures, and players may wish to wear black armbands."

Gary Neville, the former Manchester United defender, was among those who insisted football should have continued. "Sport can demonstrate better than most the respect the Queen deserves," he wrote on social media. The FSA said it had shared its views with the

Continued on page 2



## Sport

# 'An opportunity missed for

### CONTINUED FROM FRONT

football authorities. "Our view is that most supporters would have liked to go to games this weekend and pay their respects to the Queen alongside their fellow fans," the FSA said.

"Not everyone will agree, so there was no perfect decision for the football authorities, but many supporters will feel this was an opportunity missed for football to pay its own special tribute."

The FSA said it will seek information about refunds for fans who had already arranged travel to games.

The Premier League's postponement includes Monday evening's scheduled game and its chief executive, Richard Masters, said: "We and our clubs would like to pay tribute to Her Majesty's long and unwavering service to our country. As our longest-serving monarch, she has been an inspiration and leaves behind an incredible legacy following a life of dedication."

"This is a tremendously sad time for not just the nation, but also for the millions of people around the world who admired her, and we join together with all those in mourning her passing."

The Premier League added that "further updates regarding league fixtures during the period of mourning will be provided at a later date" — understood to be a reference to uncertainty around police resources for next week's games.

The Women's Super League, due to start this weekend in the afterglow of England's Euro 2022 triumph, has been left with an additional scheduling headache around the use of men's

team's stadiums. Games were due to be played this weekend at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, Stamford Bridge and Brighton's Amex Stadium. If matches cannot be rearranged at the men's grounds, fans are likely to be offered refunds or equivalent tickets for the new date. In the case of Chelsea, a significant number of fans would miss out given Kingsmeadow, their usual home, has a capacity of fewer than 5,000.

As with the Premier League calendar, there are few spare windows for midweek fixtures given that Arsenal's Champions League qualifying campaign begins on Tuesday, September 20, while the Continental Cup (League Cup equivalent) starts in October.

Manchester United last night became the first British club to confirm they will fulfil their European fixture next week. The club said their Europa League trip to Moldova to face Sheriff Tiraspol will go ahead on Thursday.

"Match arrangements will remain the same for fans who are travelling to support the team in Chisinau," the statement read.

The Great North Run will take place as planned tomorrow, though the Junior and Mini Great North Runs and a 5km event also scheduled for the weekend have been cancelled. About 60,000 runners will take part in the half-marathon on Tyneside and organisers said the £25 million expected to be raised for charity would be "a fitting tribute to the Queen". The BBC is still discussing whether to televise the event. It was due to be on BBC1 from 10am until noon, then on BBC2, but could move to the Red Button service.

In boxing, the unification world title fight between Savannah Marshall and Claressa Shields, scheduled for tonight at the O2 in London in front of a 20,000-strong crowd, has been provisionally rescheduled for October 15.

Premiership Rugby rearranged the two fixtures due to take place last night as a mark of respect, but they will be played along with the rest of the scheduled games this weekend. Community rugby will continue.

As well as the Test match, the ECB also confirmed that the women's T20 between England and India at Chequers Street and the men's under-19 ODI between England and Sri Lanka in Leicester will take place as planned today, as will domestic women's matches in the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy tomorrow. Branded advertising in the grounds will be replaced with messaging paying tribute to the Queen. The ECB said all grassroots cricket this weekend could go ahead.

## FOOTBALL'S FIXTURE PILE-UP

There isn't a single free weekend or midweek between now and the World Cup in which the ten Premier League games that have been postponed this weekend could be played. Today's standout match — Manchester City against Tottenham Hotspur — was due to bring together Harry Kane and Erling Haaland in a head-to-head battle of the best two strikers in the top flight.

### No room for manoeuvre

Football schedule for the next three months

- Champions League ● Europa League
- Premier League ● Nations League
- International matches ● World Cup
- Carabao Cup

SEPTEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

OCTOBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

NOVEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	1	2	3



HARRY KANE  
Club: Tottenham Hotspur

### United top club during reign of Elizabeth II

#### Most top-flight wins by reign

Victoria.....	Aston Villa 198
Edward VII.....	Newcastle 171
George V.....	Sunderland 398
Edward VIII.....	Brentford 18
George VI.....	Wolves 163
Elizabeth II.....	Man Utd 1,445

#### League games by reign (all divisions):

Elizabeth II.....	142,908
All others combined.....	61,322

George V.....	32,848
George VI.....	15,535
Edward VII.....	6,468
Victoria.....	4,936
Edward VIII.....	1,535

### This decision has cost us so much money'

Overseas fans have wasted thousands of pounds travelling to see Premier League games that were postponed after the Queen's death, amid widespread outrage that football is one of the few sports whose fixtures have been called off this weekend (Matthew Kayanja writes).

Unable to use their tickets at future games, and unlikely to get refunds on flights and accommodation, many have missed out on carefully planned and budgeted trips.

Charles Mota, a Tottenham Hotspur-supporting lawyer who lives just north of Toronto, Canada, planned to watch

Manchester City versus Tottenham today along with his younger brother, a City fan.

"We specifically targeted this game as two brothers on a vacation to see our teams play each other," Mota said. "My brother supported [Manchester City] when Mario Balotelli joined the club; we're Italian by background and that was his favourite player. I started supporting Spurs in 2011; originally it was Gareth Bale that got my attention."

"It would have meant more to do a moment of silence or commemoration with all the fans in attendance and also applauding for the Queen. As sad as it is we all knew that this day would eventually come."

"Luckily for me, I did get to see the Tottenham Champions League game [against Marseille] on Wednesday but my brother



Spurs fan Mota and his City-supporting brother travelled from Canada

didn't get to see any of the games with his club. But seeing our two teams play against each other was the purpose of the trip and expected to be the highlight. I'm just disappointed more than anything else."

Mota, 40, said their flights cost roughly £1,000 each and accommodation for their stay from Tuesday until Monday, plus train travel from London to Manchester, brought their total outlay to more than £2,000 each. "I can't legitimately ask the airlines or hotels to give me any money back — they provided the services they were expected to provide," Mota added.

"We had talked about the trip since before Covid, because I wanted to see the new stadium."

Sumeet, 26, an engineer from Edmonton, Canada, missed out on seeing his team, Arsenal, play Everton tomorrow. "I tried to

watch an Arsenal game against Burnley in May 2020 and it was postponed because of the pandemic. Maybe I should stop booking trips to the UK, it's not a good omen," he said.

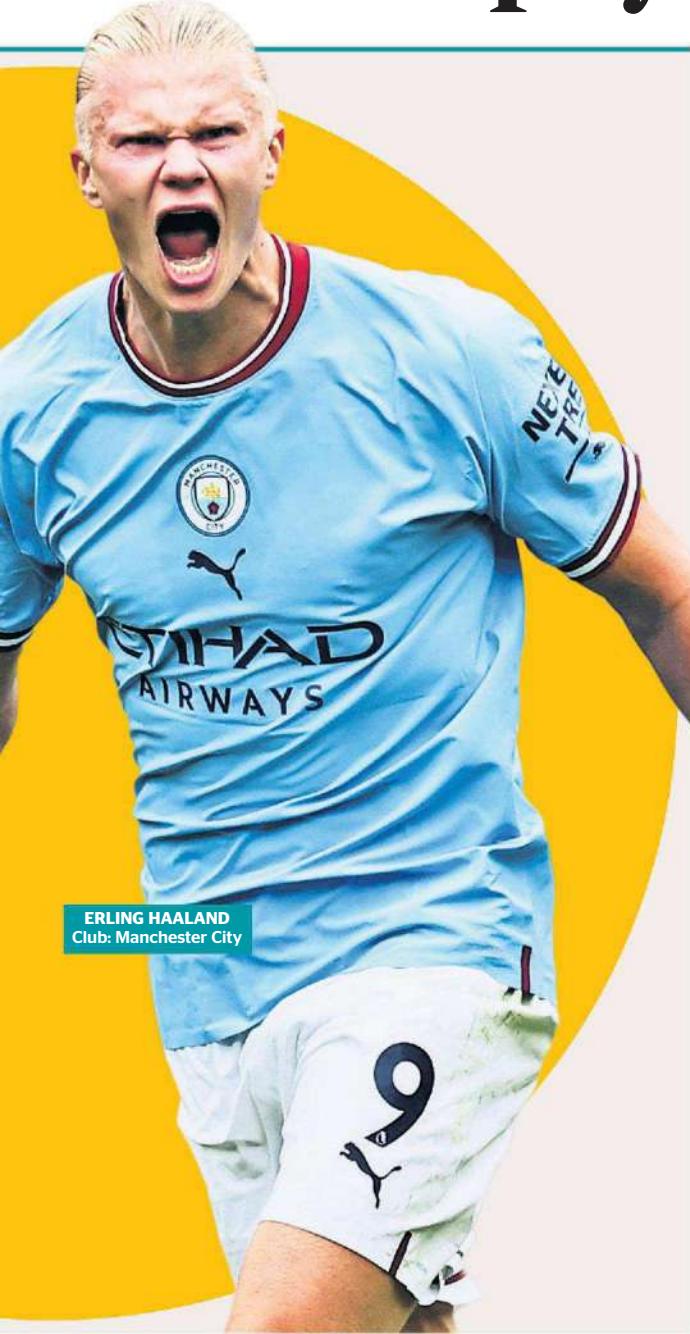
Ashley Modraf, 38, from Vancouver, Canada, also came to watch the Arsenal v Everton game along with his mother.

"Obviously the passing of the Queen is massive," he said. "But the Premier League [missed] a chance to show how much the Queen meant to people. There are only a certain amount of vacation days and now that's it. I've been supporting the club since I was eight and founded the Vancouver Arsenal supporters group. It's a tough pill to swallow."

"My mother's probably just as disappointed as I am. She's not a big Arsenal fan but I think she's more a fan of me."

# fans to pay a special tribute'

## How each sport is reacting



### FOOTBALL

The Premier League and EFL, the opening weekend of the Women's Super League and games in the National League and at grassroots level have all been postponed this weekend. The Premier League's postponement includes Monday evening's game. There will be no action in the Scottish Premiership, Championship, League One, League Two and the Lowland and Highland Leagues, as well as Scottish women's football.

### CRICKET

After day one was wiped out by rain and the second day cancelled as a mark of respect for the Queen, the third Test between England and South Africa will start — weather permitting — at the Oval today. The women's T20 international between England and India in Durham will also go ahead, as will the one-day international between England men's Under-19 and Sri Lanka.

The ECB also confirmed that all recreational cricket could resume from today.

### RUGBY UNION

Premiership Rugby has rescheduled the two fixtures that were due to be played last night, but the rest of the weekend's games will go ahead as planned, and the RFU has confirmed that community rugby will continue.

Bristol's game against Bath at Ashton Gate has been moved to 5.30pm today from last night and Sale Sharks' game against Northampton Saints will now take place tomorrow.

Premiership Rugby said there would be a one-minute silence observed before each game and that "all players and coaches will be invited to wear black armbands".

The RFU Championship, including two fixtures last night — Cornish Pirates v Richmond and Coventry v

### Premier League games called off this weekend

#### TODAY

Fulham v Chelsea  
Bournemouth v Brighton & Hove Albion  
Leicester City v Aston Villa  
Liverpool v Wolverhampton Wanderers  
Southampton v Brentford  
Manchester City v Tottenham Hotspur

#### TOMORROW

Arsenal v Everton  
West Ham United v Newcastle United  
Crystal Palace v Manchester United

#### MONDAY

Leeds United v Nottingham Forest

on Sunday and are confident that we can continue in a way that will remain respectful of the Queen and the royal family and mindful of the mood of intense sadness which is being felt across the country."

### FORMULA ONE

The Italian Grand Prix will go ahead as planned this weekend, but all the teams held a minute's silence yesterday and the same is set to happen again tomorrow before the race begins.

### RUGBY LEAGUE

Today's Betfred Super League play-off between Huddersfield Giants and Salford Red Devils is set to go ahead as planned with a minute's silence being observed before kick-off, and both sets of players wearing black armbands.

### BOXING

Claressa Shields and Savannah Marshall's middleweight world title fight, part of an all-female ten-bout event at the O2 Arena in London that was due to take place tonight, has been postponed until October 15. The card will be held at the same venue.

### RACING

The final day of the St Leger Festival at Doncaster has been moved back to tomorrow after the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) cancelled all of today's meetings as "an ongoing mark of respect".

Racing at Southwell and Chelmsford was abandoned on Thursday evening and the BHA also cancelled all meetings scheduled for Friday — including the third day of the St Leger meeting.

### GREAT NORTH RUN

The Great North Run will take place as planned tomorrow, though organisers have cancelled the Junior and Mini Great North Runs and a 5km event also scheduled for the weekend.

Thousands of runners take part in the half-marathon on Tyneside and organisers said the £25 million expected to be raised for charity would be "a fitting tribute to the Queen".

Sir Brendan Foster, the event's founder, said: "We have considered the staging of the Great North Run

## Sport Italian Grand Prix

# Ferrari need rivals to pay the penalty

**Rebecca Clancy**

Motor Racing Correspondent, Monza



reassuring presence for most, if not all, of our lives". Several of the cars will carry a tribute to the Queen this weekend while another mark of respect is being planned for tomorrow, just before the race, though what exactly that will be is yet to be confirmed. The Queen's father, King George VI, attended the first World Championship Formula One race, the 1950 British Grand Prix.

After a short round of applause as the silence ended, the drivers climbed into their cars for the first 60 minutes of track action around Monza, one of the most historic tracks on the calendar.

Ferrari fans' commitment to their team will not be dampened by the fact that Charles Leclerc's first tilt at a championship has all but mathematically ended. They were happy enough yesterday as Ferrari drivers topped the standings in both practice sessions — Leclerc in the morning and Carlos Sainz in the afternoon.

For all that, Max Verstappen's commanding 109-point lead at the top of the standings with seven races remaining is likely to be extended here this weekend, with Red Bull set to show off their dominant straight-line speed.

Friday practice should routinely be ignored when looking at lap times and this weekend is no different, especially with Verstappen, 24, and several other drivers taking grid penalties for various reasons. With these penalties ending any hopes of claiming pole position, the focus in practice for Verstappen and the others in his position is more on getting the car ready for the race.

Monza is the perfect place to take engine penalties as the track, with its long straights, should make overtaking and gaining places during the race easier.

Mercedes confirmed on Thursday that Hamilton would start the race from the back of the grid after taking a fourth power unit, one more than is permitted in the regulations.

He will be joined at the back by his former team-mate, Valtteri Bottas, as Alfa Romeo fit a new power unit. Yuki Tsunoda will also be at the back after receiving his fifth reprimand of the season for driving with his seat belt

undone during last weekend's Dutch Grand Prix — part of the confusing incident which led to the Japanese driver stopping on the track, the safety car being deployed and the outcome of the race taking a dramatic turn in Verstappen's favour. Sainz will also start from the rear, as Ferrari have replaced

several elements of his power unit, while both Haas drivers — Kevin Magnussen and Mick Schumacher — could also be moved back if the American team makes changes, as expected.

Verstappen's grid penalty is only five places for taking a fifth internal combustion engine, above the three permit-



Hamilton, who was seventh fastest in yesterday's practice, must start tomorrow's race in Monza from the back of the grid



Drivers	Team	Points
1 M Verstappen	Red Bull	310
2 C Leclerc	Ferrari	201
3 S Pérez	Red Bull	201
4 G Russell	Mercedes	188
5 C Sainz	Ferrari	175
6 L Hamilton	Mercedes	158
7 L Norris	McLaren	82
8 E Ocon	Alpine	66
9 F Alonso	Alpine	59
10 V Bottas	Alfa Romeo	46

Constructors	Points
1 Red Bull	511
2 Ferrari	376
3 Mercedes	346
4 Alpine	125
5 McLaren	101
6 Alfa Romeo	51

ted, though it is possible that Red Bull could choose to take more over the course of the weekend. The world champion had taken an engine penalty in Belgium at the start of this triple header and, despite starting 14th, he was leading the race by lap 12 and went on to claim victory. His Red Bull teammate, Sergio Pérez, also has a penalty of ten grid places, for a fresh engine which exceeds his allowance.

This should all boost Leclerc, who has no penalties. The 24-year-old is bidding for his second win at the team's home race, cheered on by the 315,000 expected to attend over the weekend on the circuit's 100th anniversary.

The weather is forecast to be sunny and warm all weekend, which may help Mercedes, who have struggled to make their tyres work in the colder temperatures, but it is difficult to see past Verstappen, who is driving superbly at the moment in what will almost certainly be a championship-winning car.

For Ferrari, their hope must surely be to have a clean weekend with no mishaps, mistakes or reliability issues.

The Tifosi's support may be unwavering but that deserves to be rewarded with a strong performance on the track, not another test of their resolve as yet another year passes without silverware.

## THE TAILENDER



Patrick Kidd

### From Drake to Trueman - great bowlers of the Elizabethan eras

Unlike at the Oval on Thursday, where the weather prevented any play as concern spread about the Queen's health, the news of the death of George VI on February 6, 1952, reached Madras at tea on the first day of the fifth Test. England, who had won the toss and led the series

1-0, played on, reaching 224 for five against India, but the scheduled rest day was brought forward to the next day as a mark of respect.

The late Queen's father had been a cricket enthusiast. Patron of MCC, Surrey and Lancashire, he was often seen at Lord's and had entertained

the 1948 Australian tourists at Balmoral. A year later, Donald Bradman, their captain, was knighted. In a brief obituary in Wisden, it was remarked that George VI, when Prince Albert, had taken a royal hat-trick at Windsor Castle, dismissing Edward VII and the future George V and Edward VIII with consecutive balls.

Wisden ruled that he was "the best royal cricketer since Frederick, Prince of Wales, in 1751", perhaps forgetting that Prince Christian Victor, grandson of Queen Victoria, had once made 35 and nought in a first-class game in 1887 for I Zingari against the Gentlemen of England.

The death of the last Emperor of India, who had lost his title in 1948,



affected the tourists more than the home side. When the Test resumed, the players wearing black armbands, England lost their last five wickets for 22 runs as Vinoo Mankad finished with eight for 55.

Pankaj Roy and Polly Umrigar then made centuries as India set up the basis for an innings victory. It was India's first win, 20 years and 24 matches after being given Test status. The Elizabethan age may have started poorly but England got revenge six months later, beating India in the summer Tests 3-0. Like the first Queen Elizabeth, their success depended upon the talents of a famous bowler or two. She had Francis Drake; Elizabeth II had Fred Trueman, above, and Alec Bedser.

### Better-known-as teams announced

After I wrote in last Saturday's Diary column that Mary Elizabeth Truss is the tenth prime minister to be known by her middle name, joining the likes of MH Macmillan, JG Brown and AB DePf Johnson, two readers (David Morgan, former president of the ICC, and Geoffrey Samuel) challenged me to form a cricket XI under the same rules. Better than that, I have two.

**England XI** BC Broad, JM Brearley (capt), CP Mead, JL Trott, MC Cowdrey, Hon FS Jackson, TG Evans (wkts), CC Lewis, GAR Lock, JB Statham, RJ Kirtley.  
**Rest of World XI** CG Greenidge, IVA Richards (capt), RN Harvey, RG Pollock, DPMD Jayawardene, PA De Silva, PJL Dujon (wkts), HMRK Herath, WPUJC Vaas, BKV Prasad, BP Patterson.  
*Commentary on their match will be provided by LTJ Arlott and NAS Gibson.*

# World's best meet in clash of styles

**Stuart Fraser**

Tennis Correspondent,  
New York

Despite all the unpredictability in the women's game in recent times, the US Open final will pit the best two performing players in the world this year against each other.

If the rankings were purely based on results in 2022, the No 1, Iga Swiatek, will take on the No 2, Ons Jabeur, today for the final grand-slam title of this season.

This is a rare women's singles event that has gone by the form book. Swiatek, 21, has been the standout player on the WTA Tour, recording a 37-match winning streak earlier this year that ranks as the longest by any woman this century. Jabeur, 28, has backed up her run to the final of Wimbledon by repeating the feat two months later in New York.

"I think we are just trying to manage and learn how to be more and more consistent," Jabeur said.

"I feel like the difference between men and women didn't happen before, but then they had [Roger] Federer, [Novak] Djokovic, and [Rafael] Nadal. Before, we just had Serena [Williams].

"Definitely it is better for us to be consistent and do great results. Iga inspired us with her winning streak and we are going to continue fighting."

Jabeur now has the chance to claim the first major trophy that she was only one set from securing at the All England Club — she won the first set of the final against Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina before losing in three. As painful as that was, it was an experience that will be valuable as she prepares for another shot at glory here.

"It feels more real, to be honest with you, just to be in the finals again," the No 5 seed from Tunisia said. "At Wimbledon I was kind of just living the



## HOW THE US OPEN FINALISTS COMPARE

Iga Swiatek		Ons Jabeur
21	Age	28
1	World ranking	5
Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Polish	Nationality	Tunisian
5ft 9in	Height	5ft 6in
Won French Open in 2020, 2022	Best grand-slam performance	Wimbledon final 2022
Fourth round 2021	Best previous US Open performance	Third round 2019, 2020, 2021
9	Singles titles	3
£9.93m	Career prize money	£6.63m

### Swiatek v Jabeur

US Open women's final, today 9pm, live on Amazon Prime

dream, and I couldn't believe it. Even just after the match, I was just going to do my thing and [did] not realise it was an amazing achievement already.

"But now I just hope I'm getting used to it and [I am] happy with the fact that I backed up the results in Wimbledon and people are not really surprised I'm in the finals — but just going and going and just doing my thing. Now maybe I know what to do in the final. I know it's

going to be very difficult, but I'm going to have to do my best now."

Jabeur is a trailblazer as the first African and Arab woman to become a US Open finalist. She has become a national icon in Tunisia, where millions watched her comfortable 6-1, 6-3 semi-final victory against France's Caroline Garcia. Two days earlier her quarter-final had taken eyes away from the

Champions League match between Juventus and Paris Saint-Germain.

"In Tunisia it's all about soccer," Jabeur said.

"But people were not watching the game, they were watching my game, which is impressive to me."

"I think parents are making their kids play tennis right now. I just remember when I won the juniors at the 2011

## Sticker prices soar (even with swaps)

It was one of the rituals of my childhood: "Got. Got. Need. Swap?" At breaktime little boys would gather in the playground, clutching wads of stickers as they tried to fill their Panini album. I started collecting for Mexico '86 and then a couple of albums of the old first division — swap John Wark for Jan Molby?

It's good to know in a digital age that Panini still produces stickers but, my, it's a racket. The Qatar '22 album has 670 gaps to fill. Kieran Maguire, author of *The Price of Football*, says that at 90p for a packet of five it would cost £120.60 to fill if you swap all your spares. If there's no swapping then on probability it would cost £883.80. It would be cheaper, just, to restrict my panini habit to tuna melts.



**PIC OF THE WEEK**

News of the Queen's death was too much for a West Ham United fan who heard it during the club's home game against FCSB. Fifty-six years before, the Queen was at Wembley to watch West Ham (and a few friends) beat West Germany in the World Cup final.

## Salisbury still No 1 after retaining title

**Stuart Fraser**

Great Britain's Joe Salisbury will remain the world's No 1 doubles player after successfully defending his US Open men's title with the United States' Rajeev Ram.

Salisbury and Ram prevailed against Britain's Neal Skupski and his Dutch partner, Wesley Koolhof, in two tight sets for a 7-6 (7-4), 7-5 victory on the Arthur Ashe Stadium court.

The 30-year-old Salisbury hit the winning shot on match point against the Skupski serve by putting away a lob with an overhead smash.

This was a straight shoot-out between upcoming Davis Cup teammates Salisbury and Skupski for the world No 1 ranking. Salisbury will now extend his reign into a 24th week after

first becoming No 1 on April 4, while Skupski, 32, will stay at No 3 after reaching his first major men's doubles final. Salisbury, who took time off after Wimbledon because of a back injury, and Ram have become one of the world's most successful active doubles pairs since they started their partnership three years ago.

This is their third grand-slam title, having previously won the 2020 Australian Open and 2021 US Open. They are also only the second men's doubles team in the open era to defend their US Open title, joining Australia's Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde (who won in 1995 and 1996).

"It's pretty crazy," Salisbury said. "I can't quite believe that we are standing here again — to have won this twice in a row is amazing. It is so special to be playing in this incredible stadium."

French Open, there were a lot of players trying to play tennis, even adults. They are interested in the sport.

"I'm hearing that they want to call a complex [by] my name in Tunisia. I think it's going to be huge and definitely is going to give a powerful message. I feel like people are going to believe even more in playing tennis and becoming professional tennis players."

The match-up between Swiatek's attack and Jabeur's variety promises to be fascinating.

With a head-to-head record of 2-2, this is developing into a much-needed rivalry for the WTA Tour, which has lacked regular contests between the sport's best players at the biggest tournaments to drive interest and storylines.

"There are a lot of challenges because she's a really solid player and she's second in the race right now," Swiatek said. "She didn't get ranking points for the Wimbledon final, but it shows how much progress she has made."

"She has a different game style than most of the players. She has a great touch and all these things [shots] mixed up. That's why our matches are always kind of physical and really tight. She's just a tough opponent and fully deserves to be in the final. I think it's going to be a great battle."

Swiatek has the benefit of being a grand-slam champion already, having won the 2020 and 2022 editions of the French Open, but she has surpassed her own expectations by winning six straight matches on the hard courts of Flushing Meadows.

Only a few weeks before, the Polish top seed complained about the lighter regular duty balls that are used in the women's events here. A 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 victory over Aryna Sabalenka in the semi-finals suggests that she has now got to grips with them.

"In Indian Wells [in March] I had a pretty similar situation, because it's so dry out there that I had also had a hard time controlling the ball," Swiatek said.

"And at the end I did play some three-set matches, but still I was the one to win it. It's something that I needed that I didn't have when I was younger — to actually be able to maybe not win ugly, but win when you're not feeling 100 per cent."

"It's great, actually, because I feel like the best players out there who are able to do that are the biggest champions."

On an individual note, Salisbury now has a total of five major titles to his name. He won the mixed doubles at both the French Open and US Open last year with the American Desirae Krawczyk.

To pay tribute to Queen Elizabeth II, Salisbury wore a black armband during the match, while Skupski had a black ribbon attached to his shirt.

Meanwhile, Britain's Alfie Hewett reached his sixth consecutive men's wheelchair singles final.

The 24-year-old No 2 seed defeated France's Nicolas Peifer 6-3, 6-1 to move to within one win of a sixth grand-slam singles title.

Hewett now takes on Japan's Shingo Kunieda, the world No 1, who at the age of 38 is bidding to become the first-ever player to complete the calendar grand slam.

## Sport England v South Africa: LV= Third Test

# Moving occasion awaits – it's



**Mike Atherton**

Chief Cricket Correspondent

The last time a British monarch died, England's Test team were also in action. It was a famous game, as it turned out, in Chennai in February 1952 when George VI died, marking as it did India's first-ever Test win, fully two decades after achieving Test status. The reign of Elizabeth II, therefore, spanned all of India's Test wins, one of the many remarkable statistics that is an indication of her longevity on the throne.

George VI died during the first day of that Test in Chennai, with arrangements hastily redrawn so that the second day became a rest day, and the match continued thereafter. Similarly, after 24 hours of negotiations and sniffing the public mood, the decision was made on Friday that this Test will also continue, on the scheduled third day. It was a decision for the ECB to make, and it has made the right one.

One feels for administrators in times like these, as they try desperately to do the right thing and avoid falling foul of public opinion. There were complications: the ground is owned by the Duchy of Cornwall and football had decided to cancel all its fixtures over the weekend. Set against that, was the players' clear desire, expressed most clearly in a tweet by Ben Stokes ("She loved sport, be honoured to play in her memory"), to play on.

Once football had decided to cancel its fixtures, the ECB would have been concerned not to appear out of step. But it is not: the guidance was that it was very much at the individual sport's discretion and other sports have also taken a contrary view to football. The Great North Run, a celebration of community and charity, will go ahead this weekend, as will golf and both codes of rugby. Cinemas and theatres remain open across the land.

I think a majority of British people would want the action to continue, and to use the community of sport as a way of showing their respect and affection. In mourning, people will choose how and when to pause and reflect, but these moments at a sporting venue, when thousands come together in silence in a short period of remembrance, can be among the most powerful and moving ways to celebrate a life of great service.

Heaven knows, it feels like we live in a time of deep discord, but these moments are also a reminder that we have far more in common than divides us. No doubt it will be among the most moving occasions at the Oval this morning and in every corner of the land, from the most bucolic ground to

### How they line up at the Oval

England won the toss and chose to bowl at the start of the washed-out first day

England	Age	Tests	Runs	Bat avge	Wkts	Bowl avge
Zak Crawley (Kent)	24	27	1,289	26.30	–	–
Alex Lees (Durham)	29	9	401	23.58	–	–
Ollie Pope (Surrey)	24	29	1,410	30.00	–	–
Joe Root (Yorkshire)	31	123	10,481	50.14	47	46.36
Harry Brook* (Yorkshire)	23	56	3,067	36.08	–	–
Ben Stokes (Durham, captain)	31	85	5,423	36.39	189	31.80
+Ben Foakes (Surrey)	29	16	732	31.82	–	–
Stuart Broad (Nottinghamshire)	36	158	3,544	18.45	559	27.96
Ollie Robinson (Sussex)	28	10	142	9.46	44	20.93
Jack Leach (Somerset)	31	28	411	13.70	95	32.51
James Anderson (Lancashire)	40	174	1,285	9.24	664	26.26

\*First-class average

South Africa	Age	Tests	Runs	Bat avge	Wkts	Bowl avge
Dean Elgar (captain)	35	78	4,934	39.15	15	44.86
Sarel Erwee	32	6	341	31.00	–	–
Keegan Petersen	29	9	540	33.75	–	–
Ryan Rickleton	26	2	114	38.00	–	–
Khaya Zondo*	32	1	–	–	–	–
+Kyle Verreyne	25	10	392	30.15	–	–
Wiaan Mulder	24	10	255	15.00	18	25.77
Marco Jansen	22	6	166	23.71	32	19.15
Keshav Maharaj	32	44	996	15.80	154	30.61
Kagiso Rabada	27	54	827	11.98	252	22.36
Anrich Nortje	28	14	153	8.05	56	27.01

\*Concussion substitute

Umpires N Menon (India) and R Kettleborough (Eng)

the grittiest, given that recreational cricket will also continue. The women's T20 international against India will take place in Durham, as will England Under-19's match against Sri Lanka.

Despite rumours to the contrary, there will not be an extra day added to the game, with Cricket South Africa unable to accede to England's request. Mind you, because of the rate at which these two teams played the game at Lord's and Old Trafford, a result in three days cannot be completely ruled out. The Lord's Test lasted 171 overs; Manchester 244 overs. Even without a fourth day, three days of 98 overs (if the players can get through them), would be enough time to end up with a result at a similar pace of play.

Having already tossed the coin, the captains cannot refreshion their teams and now

**Yorkshire's Brook makes his Test debut**

that the match has become shortened, the follow-on has been reduced to 150 runs. In a shortened match, it is to England's advantage to have won the toss and chosen to bowl, and their hope will be to bat once in the match. Harry Brook received his first cap from Joe Root, thus continuing the great lineage of Yorkshire and England batsmen. South Africa have announced four changes, with Ryan Rickleton, Khaya Zondo, Marco Jansen and Wiaan Mulder coming in for Rassie van der Dussen, Aiden Markram, Simon Harmer and Lungi Ngidi.

There will, no doubt, be a strange atmosphere around the Oval during the next few days, as sport continues under a period of national mourning. There was a certain understated matter-of-factness about the report in *The Times* on February 7, 1952, after England batted all day in Chennai for 224 for five. "News of the death of the King reached the ground after tea today and flags were lowered to half-mast. It was decided that the match should continue." And so it shall.



## No fancy dress or pre-match pint at Oval

### Elizabeth Ammon

Spectators have been banned from wearing fancy dress for the third Test at the Kia Oval and told that the bars will be shut until the end of a tribute to the Queen before the start of play today.

The first day of the series decider between England and South Africa on Thursday was washed out and the Test will now be played over the remaining three days after yesterday's play was cancelled as a mark of respect.

A special service to the Queen will

take place on the pitch between 10.30am and 11am and will culminate in the singing of the national anthem, which is likely to be the first public rendition of *God Save the King*.

Fancy dress is commonplace at Test grounds, with the notable exception of Lord's, but Surrey have informed ticket holders that it is not permitted for this match. The gates will open at 9am but spectators will not be able to purchase alcohol until play starts at 11am.

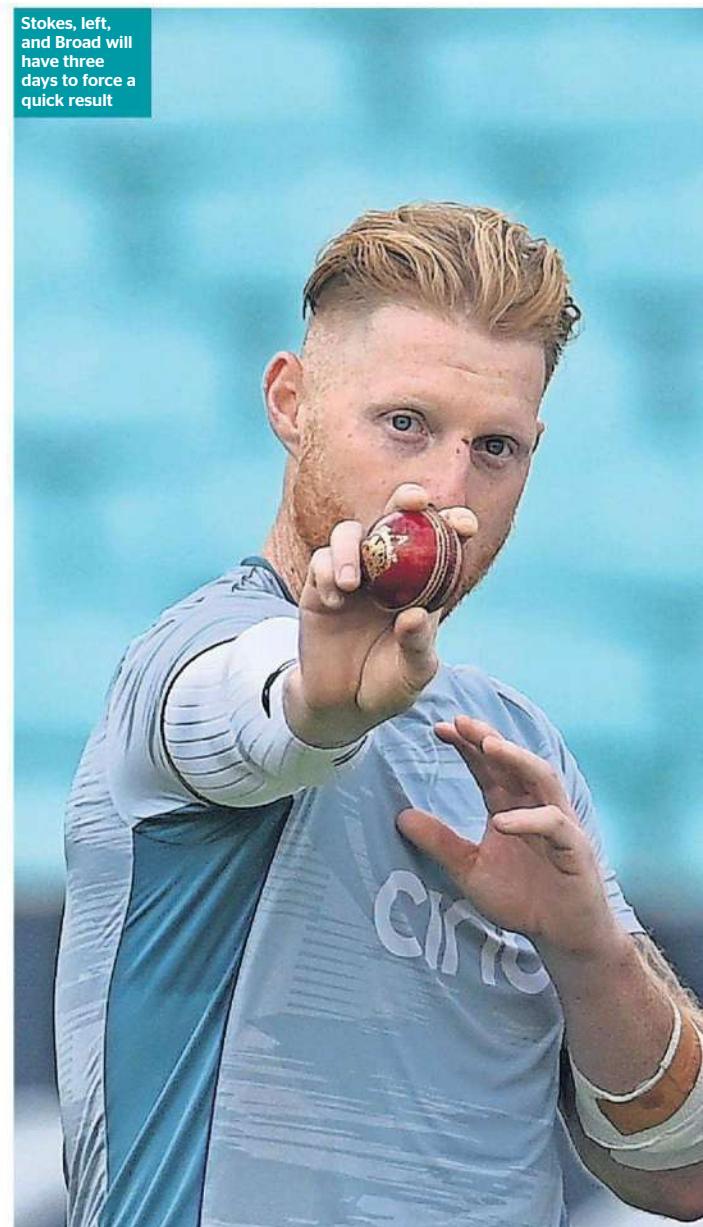
All branded advertising within the ground, including on the boundary-rope foam wedges, sightscreens, big

screens and pitchside mats, will have their logos removed and replaced with a message of tribute.

There were discussions about extending the match into Tuesday but South Africa want their players to have a few days at home before their tour to India this month.

Each of the remaining three days will now be 98 overs long, rather than 90, with extended sessions. The follow-on score has been reduced from 200 to 150, which may be relevant with both sides expected to play aggressively in their attempt to secure a series win.

Stokes, left, and Broad will have three days to force a quick result



## Brook may well have

A bewildering time for young debutant, writes **Steve James**, but he'll be focused and ready after difficult two days

Spare a thought for young Harry Brook. Amid the outpouring of sadness and grief at the passing of the Queen, it must have been a bewildering time for Brook, who, before we had all been alerted to the gravity of the state of the Queen's health on Thursday lunchtime, had been presented with his Test cap by fellow Yorkshireman Joe Root at the Kia Oval.

Brook became the 707th man to be handed such an honour by England, I actually made my first-class debut in

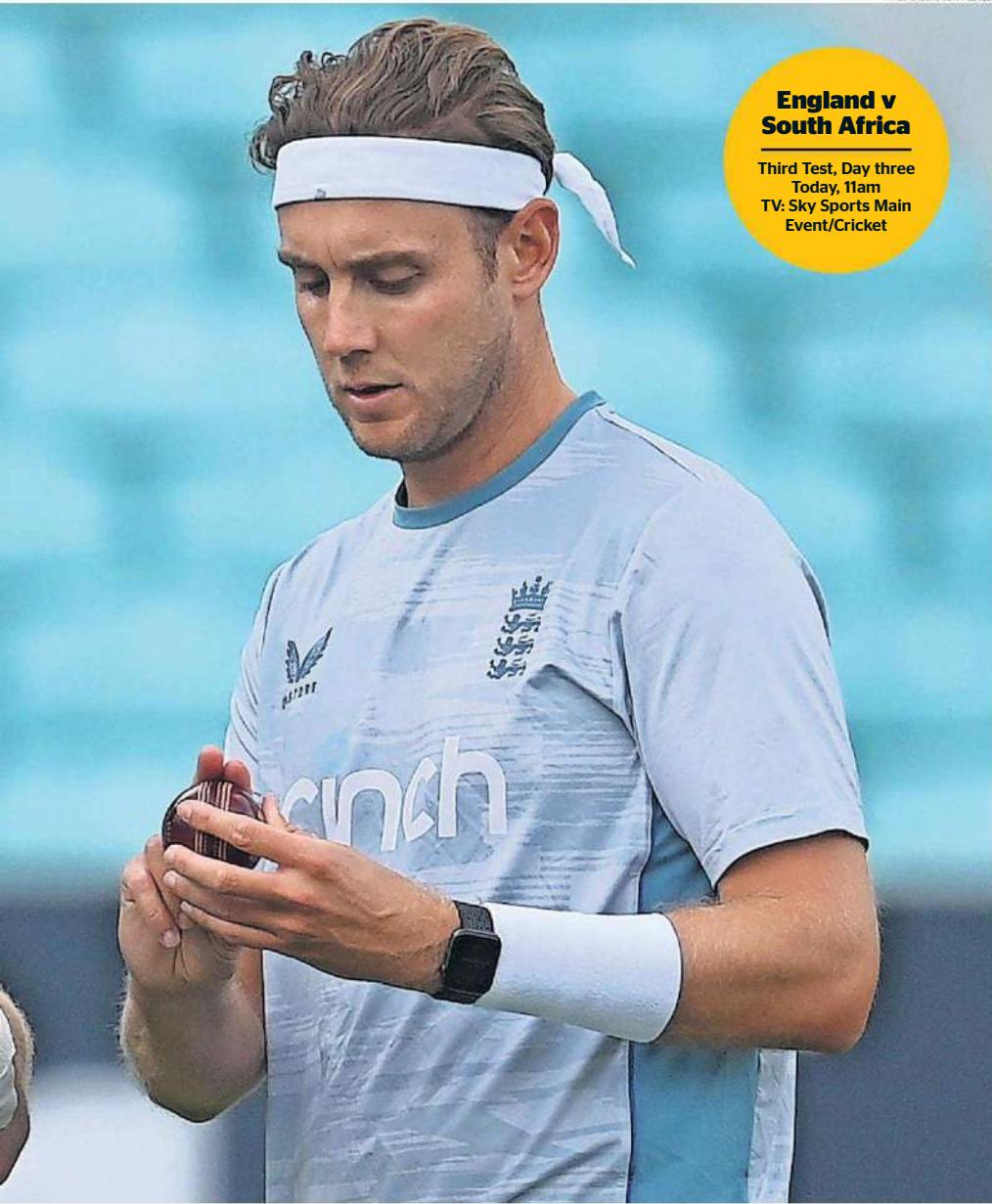
but, while first the rain was coming down on Thursday and then when talks were being held that evening and yesterday about whether the game could be started today, he must have wondered whether he would ever set foot on the field and actually do anything on his debut.

With the toss having been conducted — and England predictably electing to bowl — and the teams having been officially announced, it meant that Brook's England career had begun in the record books, if not out on the Oval field.

If the Test had been abandoned, that still would have been the case. Brook is an England Test cricketer, just as Alan Jones (cap No 696) is, despite him never having played an official Test.

Cricket can throw up such oddities.

# right to play on



**England v South Africa**

Third Test, Day three  
Today, 11am  
TV: Sky Sports Main Event/Cricket

## worried his chance had passed

1985 but did not take to the field until two years later. Glamorgan selected me for the final match of the 1985 season, a three-day County Championship match against Sussex. We won the toss and batted. I wasn't opening, as I was to do later in my career. Hugh Morris and John Hopkins batted for 18 overs without a wicket falling, but rain meant that was that. There was no further play in the match.

It was 1987 before I was deemed worthy enough again, against the same opponents, with the hulking South African fast bowler Garth le Roux announcing, "Welcome to first-class cricket, sonny," after three successive bumpers.

Even then that was only after the first day had been rained off. Given the new drainage systems at most grounds, that occurrence is less frequent these days — and even on

Thursday at the Oval you suspected that, without the prospect of an imminent announcement about the Queen that was clearly and understandably preying on minds, some play might have been possible — but cricketers are still very used to hanging around waiting for action. It is the nature of the game. It is both its allure and its curse. It gives you an awful lot of time to think.

Brook might even have been thinking that this was his only chance. One-cap wonders have often only graced Test cricket at the Oval, traditionally host to the final Test of the summer, but they were supposed to be a thing of the past in this age of extended chances and central contracts.

However, even if Jonny Bairstow, the man Brook is replacing, is not fit for the Tests in Pakistan this winter, it could be that England play another

spinner — Moeen Ali maybe? — and omit a batsman. That could be Brook, although there is, of course, the other possibility that he bats higher up the order if the likes of Alex Lees and Zak Crawley cannot pass muster.

There is much to ponder, even in this highly emotional time. Will Brook and the others be ready to play today? I reckon they will.

Cricket and cricketers have always been highly flexible, able to flit between formats (I once watched a one-day international in Zimbabwe the day after the first day of a Test, which was an obvious copying of the old habit of a Sunday League match taking place in the middle of a Championship game over here) and able to switch on and off.

It is an important series-deciding match, and it will be important to pay tribute to the Queen's life with a match of quality.

## SPORT NOTEBOOK

Martyn Ziegler  
Chief Sports Reporter

**SPORTS JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR**



## No booze at games in Qatar – unless you spend nearly £20k

Champagne and spirits will be served in hospitality boxes at the World Cup in Qatar despite a ban on beer sales inside the stadiums.

Those able to afford the suites — and the cheapest available for a match will set you back a cool \$22,450 (about £19,380) — will not be affected by the restrictions on alcohol inside venues. The rank and file will only be able to buy beer at outlets within the stadium compounds but not inside the arenas.

The advertising for the hospitality suites promises a "selection of drinks available according to custom and preference; soft drinks, beers, champagne, sommelier-selected wines, and premium spirits," and that these will be available "before, during and after matches".

Those in the suites will also enjoy a "curated five-course sampling menu, and an extensive selection of complementing dishes elegantly served".



The hospitality company MATCH paid Fifa \$150 million for the rights for the Qatar tournament and will also hand over a share of the profits.

The arrangements for alcohol sales at the World Cup were finally confirmed only 11 weeks before the start of the tournament. One aspect of those is that supporters who go to the official fan park in Doha will not be able to buy beer there until after 6.30pm — and that will be restricted to the official Fifa brand, Budweiser.

That means a long wait for thirsty England fans in Qatar, with their opening match, against Iran on November 21, kicking off at 1pm. Their only other option would be an expensive one — going to one of the limited number of hotels which serve alcohol.

Qatari organisers want the fan zone to be family-friendly during the day, which means no booze at those times.

## Saudis to foot bill

Under the terms of Saudi Arabia's impending joint bid with Greece and Egypt for the 2030 World Cup, the Gulf state has agreed to pick up the tab for its partners' stadium building costs.

One measure of how little a dent that would make in its finances can be illustrated by the fact that just one month's net profit earned by Aramco, the Saudi state oil company, would have more than covered the entire £9 billion cost of the London 2012 Olympics.

It appears that the Fifa president, Gianni Infantino, has been encouraging the bid, as it would serve the dual purpose of securing part of the World Cup for an African country, one of his stated aims, and at the same time be one in eye for Uefa, which is supporting a Spain-Portugal bid. Relations between the governing bodies are as bad as ever.

## IOC warns India

India's hopes of hosting the 2036 Olympic Games have suffered a blow after the IOC postponed next year's annual session, planned for Mumbai in May, amid turmoil inside the country's Olympic committee.

The IOC cited a failure by India's Olympic chiefs to hold elections and "ongoing internal disputes, governance shortcomings and ongoing court cases". The session has been postponed until at least September next year.

## Cricketing royalty

The new King Charles III will continue to be an honorary life member of MCC along with William and Kate, the new Prince and Princess of Wales. The Queen had been a patron of MCC.

Meanwhile, the RFU had to issue a hasty correction after initially stating it was "very saddened to hear of the death of Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II". The correct terminology is Her Majesty, rather than HRH.

The spirit of the message was there at least — the Queen was a former patron of the RFU and the Rugby Football League before those both passed to the new Princess of Wales.

The Queen was also a patron of the FA, though the last time she attended an FA Cup final was in 1976, when Southampton defeated Manchester United.

## United front

The growing links between Leeds United and the San Francisco 49ers could lead to joint sponsorship deals for the Premier League side and the NFL franchise — 49ers Enterprises own 44 per cent of Leeds and their chief marketing officer, Alex Chang, told the SportsPro Podcast they were exploring potential commercial partnerships.

"There's been a lot of interest in that area, especially from global brands who really understand the power of both sports," Chang said.

## Sport Football

# 'To find a girls' side you needed to play in boys' teams first – it instilled grit'

### HENRY WINTER THE BIG INTERVIEW

England's Euros hero Alessia Russo talks about Erling Haaland's movement, her dad's demanding nature and the backheeled goal that ensures her immortality

**W**hen Alessia Russo looks at her Instagram messages, she sees replies from parents thanking her for being such a role model to their daughters. When the England centre forward checks her Twitter feed she reads plaudits from legends of the game, such as Abby Wambach, celebrating her finishing. And that's the joy of Russo. She's inspirational on and off the field.

She's also fantastic company, a mix of a 23-year-old eagerly exploring life and the world, and also a highly competitive footballer driven to win with Manchester United or England. She has a degree in sports administration from the University of North Carolina and a medal in the European Championships from a golden summer with the Lionesses.

Russo should have been running out before almost 30,000 at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium at lunchtime today when the WSL was supposed to start. She completely understands the reason for the postponement after the death of the Queen. "At times like this, football's irrelevant," Russo says. "There's much more important things and we're mourning a huge loss to the country. She's a true leader and Her Majesty is a pioneer and she's been a fabulous figure for this country for many years now. We're paying huge respect to her for what she's done for this country."

"We were fortunate enough to meet Prince William throughout the Euros and he was so supportive. He's grieving his grandmother right now. The whole country will stand together on this and we're sending all love and support their way."

Russo sends this message 24 hours after we'd spoken on Thursday in a coffee house in Wilmslow full of sporty types. Russo's big on respect. Respect, discipline, work ethic and chasing dreams are four of the many characteristics she acquired from her parents growing up in Kent. Her father Mario was in the Metropolitan Police, and a record-breaking goalscorer for them. Her mother Carol works in a hospice.

They embody a sense of service.

"My mum's the epitome of that," Russo says. "She's the most selfless person I've ever met. She's instilled that in me. The same with my dad, also working to help other people. My dad used to drive up and down the country week in, week out, in between shifts with the police, watching me."

"After games there would be a lot of criticism [constructive from Mario] which as a young kid I always used to think, 'What?' He'd tell me where I went wrong and how to get better. As a young kid I thought I don't need that, I just want to play and have fun, but we both knew how far I wanted to go in the game. If you're not going to get better every day then what's the point? Now I'm grateful for it. I instilled that [demanding nature] in myself today. I'm probably the most picky person of my game ever. That comes from my dad. I never see the good parts of my game as much as I focus on how to improve. Maybe after I finish playing football I will appreciate it."

For all the playing with a smile associated with the Lionesses, there is a steel. "It's in our nature," Russo replies. "Being females in the sport, things haven't necessarily always come easy; a lot of us went through boys' teams to eventually find a girls' team." Russo did so in Kent. "That grit is just instilled in us at a young age," she adds. "Of course we're competitive! We cross the white line and we want to win like no one else. We put everything, our bodies, on the line for the team but we enjoy it. We love playing on the biggest stages now."

Russo thinks of the pioneers who have gone before, the generation of Kelly Smith and Hope Powell, among many vital

Russo played a starring role as a substitute at the Euros

others. "As players, we talk a lot about the people that have paved the way for us to go out and fill Wembley Stadium for the Euro final. We want to continue to make it better for girls coming through now."

It's why all the Lionesses signed a letter after the victory over Germany calling on the future PM to invest more in girls' football at school. "We'd have released that letter even if we hadn't won," Russo says. "I don't want there to be barriers. The fans were incredible this summer, all the little girls with the posters — we always try and look out for them and I often give them my shirt. Because that's what it's all about — if I was that little girl I'd have loved to have got someone's shirt."

She recalls excitedly the day Smith visited her school in Kent. "I was very star-struck. Her aura. We used to go to Arsenal games, me and my dad. I loved watching her play and some of the goals she scored were ridiculous. To see her coach in our school was, for a little kid, just everything you'd want."

As her name suggests, Russo has Italian roots, very romantic ones. "My grandmother met my grandfather in a train station in Rome," she says. "She's English, he was Sicilian and was there with a friend. They saw my nan and her friend and got on the train."

So Russo wouldn't be here, and England might not have won the Euros, without that sliding train doors moment? "If he didn't get on that train," Russo laughs. "They were supposed to be going on a different train." The four got talking. "He didn't speak any English but there was a person on the train translating for them! My nan and grandad and her friend and the other guy got married! We all love the story as grandkids! She's writing the story up now which is cool."

There is a love of travel in the



family. Her brother Luca did track and field at the University of Missouri (her other brother Giorgio has played non-League for Ramsgate). Russo was determined to continue her education after her A-levels, as well as keep playing football, so went to the University of North Carolina along with Lotte Wubben-Moy, now of Arsenal and England.

"She was like a big sister to me, she's got a wise head and that's something I needed going out there because I'd only just turned 18. I had to grow up quickly. My game developed a lot over there. I realised I needed to get fitter, faster, stronger to compete with the older players."

Russo also acquired a superstition in America, jumping seven times before kick-off. "Seven's my lucky number. Mum and dad were married in July which is obviously the seventh month. One of my brothers was born on the seventh. It was my grandad's lucky number. It's a Manchester United number! I have seven tattooed on me."

Her degree helped her football, Russo believes. "If your mind's not switched on in the game then you're not going to perform," she says. "My

concentration has been helped by my degree."

As she sits in the café, Russo looks through footage of her goals and assists. She's very analytical, a strength that has enhanced her movement into optimum positions. Growing up, she studied Thierry Henry. "I used to watch all Henry's old clips on YouTube. He's a goalscorer. He gets in the right positions, he's so clinical," she says.

"Now I love watching Erling Haaland. I know he's a Manchester City player but he's unbelievable. He scores all his goals from clever movements off the back of the centre half and creates half a yard for a finish. I used to love watching Wayne Rooney. He was a No 9, played with his heart on his sleeve. He was just aggressive, passionate, scored goals."

The video then shows Russo in her own half against Reading last March, turning and releasing Leah Galton. "Leah scores! Sometimes I drop off, sometimes it's OK to come a little bit deeper, especially the way we play at United; we've got a lot of No 10s and wingers that can run in [behind]."

That pass was played with her left. "I'm right-footed but when I went to

# The Queen

A life Part 1 The royal marriage



## The royal marriage

# Love, loyalty and a lasting partnership

The Queen's marriage to Prince Philip underpinned the most successful and beloved monarchy that the United Kingdom has ever known, **Sally Bedell Smith** writes

**S**everal days before the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh marked their 70th wedding anniversary with a formal dinner at Windsor Castle in November 2017, they attended a considerably smaller private gathering in London. At the age of 96, Prince Philip had officially retired from public life in August and was dividing his time between Windsor Castle and

Wood Farm at the Queen's Sandringham estate in Norfolk. He hadn't been expected at the dinner but decided at the last minute to attend.

The guest list was grand, including King Harald V of Norway and Queen Sonja, King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands and Queen Máxima, but the atmosphere was cosy and light-hearted. At the end of the dinner, the Queen got into her limousine, bound for Buckingham Palace, and the Duke climbed into his car, headed for Windsor Castle. Suddenly a window in Philip's car rolled down and he shouted to his wife: "GOODBYE!" She rolled down her window and responded with equal vigour: "GOODBYE!"

Such moments are seldom glimpsed by those outside the Queen and the duke's circle. The enduring public image was typified during her Diamond Jubilee weekend in June 2012, when they stood on the deck of the royal barge for nearly four hours in the rain. Then aged 86 and 90, braving chill and blustery winds, they showed fortitude as well as gratitude to the 1.2 million people along the banks of the Thames.

It was everything that symbolised the royal couple. They were tough, stoic, duty-bound, a team. A beacon of continuity throughout decades of change, they set an example and solidified the traditions that help to bind the nation. Their mutual devotion radiated a "sense of unqualified commitment that has been so characteristic of every aspect of this reign", said the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, when they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 2007.

In the years after Prince Philip's retirement, the Queen respected his wish to live amid the simplicity and informality of Wood Farm, where the staff dispensed with the traditional livery required in the Queen's residences. He had friends over to shoot rabbits, visited neighbours for lunch, and relished the migration of birds on the marshes. However, when he

needed hip replacement surgery in early April 2018, she insisted he recuperate for six weeks at Windsor Castle.

Determined to attend the wedding of Prince Harry without using a stick, Philip regained his mobility in the long castle corridors. "There's Philip careering around on crutches!" the Queen exclaimed to a friend on the telephone one day. "Quite far behind him is the nurse with her arms outstretched to catch him if he falls. But he's in the wrong place!" On Harry and Meghan's wedding day, Prince Philip walked unaided.

The Queen visited her husband quietly at Wood Farm and went to some lengths to ensure he had enough stimulation for his bright and active mind as he coped with diminishing vision and hearing. He didn't like doing puzzles or playing Patience, but he enjoyed reading, so she had a device installed that would project a book onto a screen. When he insisted on driving his horse-drawn carriages round the Sandringham estate — often with a pretty neighbour he had tutored in the sport — the Queen didn't object. It kept him physically active, and offered an escape valve for the independent spirit that had appealed to her so many decades earlier.

During the spring of 2020 that arrangement was upended by the Covid-19 pandemic and the couple moved to Windsor Castle to self-isolate with a small "bubble" of staff. With all face-to-face royal duties suspended and contact with other family members confined to video calls, the isolation gave them a rare opportunity to spend quality time together, dining with each other most evenings. It was here they spent her 94th birthday in April and his 99th in June, for which they released a photograph standing together in the sunshine in the quadrangle at Windsor Castle.

If the Queen was constant and calm, Prince Philip was a spritz of vinegar with his irreverent and, at times, caustic comments. However, the duke always said "supporting the Queen" was his primary purpose as her consort. Their marriage arguably held the royal family together through the divorces of three of their four children, and the harrowing week after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales in 1997. For Britain and the Commonwealth, their remarkable partnership created the most successful and beloved monarchy in history.

Princess Elizabeth could have chosen from what her friend Lady Anne Glenconner called "a whole battalion of lively young men", English aristocrats with vast wealth. However, at the age of 13 she fell in love when



COVER: BARON/CAMERA PRESS; BELOW: LORD SNOWDON/CAMERA PRESS; ANWAR HUSSEIN/GETTY



## On Monday The Queen A life Part 2 A family affair

◀ On the cover: Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip on their wedding day in 1947

► Photographed at Buckingham Palace by Lord Snowdon for their 60th wedding anniversary

► Visiting the Solomon Islands during a tour of the South Pacific in October 1982

she spent an afternoon with 18-year-old Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark. He was a naval officer in training and a second cousin once removed, descended from Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. He had little money, but was handsome, confident, intelligent and energetic.

Over the years Elizabeth came to view Philip as a man of ideas and appealing complexity who would be neither easy nor boring, but would share her commitment to duty and service. Despite a protective shell formed during a rootless childhood, "Philip had a capacity for love which was waiting to be unlocked", said their mutual cousin, Patricia Mountbatten. Elizabeth "would not have been a difficult person to love," she said. "She was beautiful, amusing and gay." Her curly brown hair framed her porcelain complexion, with cheeks that the photographer Cecil Beaton described as "sugar-pink", vivid blue eyes, a dazzling smile and an infectious laugh.

They were married on November 20, 1947 and spent their honeymoon at Balmoral in Scotland. They had only a few years before she ascended to the throne at the age of 25. Their time in Malta from 1949 to 1951, when Philip was posted there with the Royal Navy, was the closest Princess Elizabeth came to an ordinary existence — socialising with other officers' wives, going to the hair salon, even carrying her own cash, although shopkeepers noted "she was slow in handling money".

It was Philip who broke the news to his wife in 1952 that her father had died, aged 56, and that she was Queen. At first, Philip was viewed with suspicion by her old-style courtiers. He was excluded from the substance of the Queen's official life, with no access to state papers. However, he carved out a role as a patron of nearly 800 charities, even as his wife came to rely on him for advice when making tough decisions.

If her advisers brought a question to her on a matter outside her head of state role, she asked them first to find out what Philip thought. She looked at the big picture and asked for other options; Philip drilled down and got to the heart of an issue — what one of her advisers called "a defence staff rigour". Early on, Philip saw the potential of television; he encouraged the Queen to use it and even tutored her on how to read from an Autocue for her first televised speech in 1957.

On their trips at home and abroad they perfected a choreography of turns and cues that appeared effortless. He watched her intently during walkabouts to see if she required assistance. He would often spot people who couldn't see her — children in particular — and guide them to a better vantage point. When the Queen needed a boost, he was there with a humorous aside: "Don't look so sad, sausage."



While they were not physically demonstrative, they had a deep connection that intensified after the deaths of her mother and sister in 2002, when he became "her emotional touchstone", in the view of one of her senior advisers. On the eve of her Diamond Jubilee, the adviser noticed that "she still lights up when he walks into the room. She becomes softer, lighter, and happier." During his carriage-driving competitions, she would watch him do the obstacles, then jump into her Land Rover to drive to the next set of challenges.

Yet they were not, according to their cousin Lady Pamela Hicks, "sweet old Darby and Joan by any means. They were both very strong characters." The Queen went to unusual lengths to avoid confrontations with her prickly husband. Tony Parnell, for 30 years the foreman of her home at Sandringham, recalled a time when Philip's dressing room badly needed repainting. "On Her Majesty's instruction," he said, "we had to match the dirty paintwork so he wouldn't know."

The most poignant moment of the Diamond Jubilee weekend occurred when Philip became ill with a bladder infection after the long Thames River Pageant on the Sunday. The Queen's walk down the aisle of St Paul's Cathedral that Tuesday was a throat-catching moment — the first time she had appeared at a key ceremonial event without Philip at her side.

He was again at her side, however, for the final year of his life, an unintended silver lining of the pandemic. It seemed somehow fitting that the couple could enjoy a sunset honeymoon at Windsor Castle, where Philip had first courted Lilibet during the Second World War. When he fell ill in early 2021 and was taken to hospital for a month, he was determined to return to his own bed in the castle. The Queen was always nearby during his last three weeks as she ensured that he was comfortable and could eat and sleep whenever he wished. The end came gently, with his wife of 73 years a comforting presence.

Among her many happy memories was the 66th wedding anniversary they celebrated in typically low-key fashion at the home of the Queen's cousin, Lady Elizabeth Anson. For the dinner, she used solar-powered Queen statuettes to hold the place cards for the guests, marking the Queen's seat with a toy bobble-head corgi. Surrounded by their oldest friends and extended family, the royal couple, aged 87 and 92, still laughed like newlyweds.

**Sally Bedell Smith** is author of *Elizabeth the Queen*, published by Penguin

# The royal marriage



◀ From left: King George VI, Princess Elizabeth, Princess Margaret, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip at the wedding of Patricia Mountbatten, Philip's cousin, and John Knatchbull in 1946

► A royal group portrait from 1947, with Elizabeth and Philip, the Queen and King, and Margaret

▼ Philip and Elizabeth pose for their official engagement photographs

# A besotted princess

Prince Philip made a lasting impression on the young Elizabeth during their first meeting in 1939. Eight years later they were married, despite the reservations of her parents and courtiers, **Kate Williams** writes

**H**ow high he can jump!" Elizabeth said to Marion Crawford in July 1939. The princess and her governess were watching the 18-year-old Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark leap over nets on the tennis courts

at the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth. Elizabeth was 13 and had lived a sheltered life. Handsome and clever, Philip, her second cousin once removed, was a revelation to her.

Elizabeth was entranced, much to the delight of Philip's uncle, Lord Mountbatten, who had engineered the meeting. Philip was invited to tea on the royal yacht, moored nearby — and Elizabeth watched, fascinated, as he ate a banana split. When the yacht left Dartmouth, cadets followed in small boats — until King George commanded them to turn back. They obeyed, apart from Philip, who rowed hard after the yacht as Elizabeth watched through binoculars. The die had been cast.

Philip found the young princess very appealing — cheerful and practical, she was unlike his fragile mother. Born in Corfu, he had been forced to leave Greece when he was one with his parents, Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark and Princess Alice of Battenberg, after his father was blamed in part for the loss of territory during the Greco-Turkish War. The family set up in Paris, but his mother was committed to a sanatorium in Switzerland after being diagnosed with schizophrenia and his father took mistresses. Philip was sent to boarding schools and flourished at Gordonstoun in Scotland, before going to Dartmouth.

During the Second World War, Philip wrote regularly to Elizabeth and visited her for Christmas in 1943. At the end of hostilities, when she was 19, he began to court her in earnest. They went to concerts and restaurants, or stayed in the nursery with her sister, Princess Margaret, and drank orangeade.

Elizabeth's circle was not enthusiastic. King George and her mother, Queen Elizabeth, wished her to "see more of the world" and "meet more men" before marrying. There was concern among courtiers that Philip was not quite the right sort — "no gentleman" — and he signed visitors' books as of "no fixed abode". Elizabeth refused to listen. She had been set on Philip since Dartmouth — and their separation during the



war had only intensified the romance. The King had to relent. The engagement was announced on July 9, 1947, with the wedding date fixed for November 20.

The government and courtiers worried that a lavish ceremony might infuriate a population mired in a recession. However, Winston Churchill called it "a flash of colour on the hard road we have to travel", and his view won. The wedding would be as magnificent as possible, but the day could not be a bank holiday, because ministers believed that a day off could plunge the faltering economy into dire straits.

Clothes rationing was still in force and thousands of women donated coupons for the wedding dress — but the Palace returned them, because coupons could not be transferred. The Privy Purse found the money for the silk and Norman Hartnell designed the dress, inspired by Botticelli's *Primavera*. It was embroidered

with flowers, crystals and 10,000 pearls. Seamstresses worked round the clock to complete it.

Three thousand presents poured in from all over the world, and half were put on display. Elizabeth received jewels, china, vases, a racehorse, a home cinema, more than 150 pairs of silk stockings and 500 cans of tinned pineapple from the governor of Queensland. The oddest, though, was two pieces of toast sent by two young women in London who had burnt it in excitement when they heard about the engagement.

Two nights before the wedding, the King and Queen held a ball for the royal guests at Buckingham Palace. The King led a conga through the royal apartments. It was a true postwar jamboree. But among those not invited were Philip's three surviving sisters — who were married to German officers. Also absent was the Duke of Windsor, the former Edward VIII, along with his wife, the former Wallis Simpson, as neither the princess nor her mother could forgive him for abdicating.

"I can't believe it's really happening," Elizabeth said to her governess on the morning of the wedding. At Westminster Abbey, the King escorted his daughter down the aisle, followed by her five-year-old pageboys — her cousins, Prince Michael of Kent and Prince William of Gloucester — and Princess Margaret and seven other bridesmaids. About 2,000 people were crammed into the stalls — the choir had to sit in the organ loft. Elizabeth made her vows and promised to obey her husband, which would be technically impossible when she became Queen.

After the ceremony, 150 guests travelled to Buckingham Palace to dine on partridge casserole (partridges were unrationed) and bombe glacée. Princess Elizabeth. The cake, created with supplies sent from Australia's Girl Guides, stood at 9ft and weighed 500lb. While the guests dined, newsreel footage was packed up and sent all over the world.

Philip and Elizabeth left for their honeymoon, first to Hampshire, then Birkhall on the Balmoral estate, through cheering crowds, despite the rain. At the palace, the royal family felt rather deflated. "I can't imagine life without her," Margaret said. Elizabeth had enjoyed the most wonderful day. "I was so happy and enjoying myself so much that I became completely selfish," she wrote to her mother. She hoped that from then on the government would see her as an adult.

**Kate Williams** is author of *Young Elizabeth: The Making of Our Queen*, published by Orion





Above: The princess, the duke and their eight bridesmaids. Left, from top: the princess passes crowds in Trafalgar Square on her way to the Abbey; the couple's 9ft tall wedding cake; spectators along the bridal procession route

## No pictures, no front page... how The Times covered the royal wedding in 1947



THE TIMES, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1947

# ROYAL DUKEDOM FOR BRIDEGROOM

His Majesty has marked the joyful day of the Royal Wedding by raising his daughter's betrothal to the style and precedence of His Royal Highness, to knighthood in the first order of chivalry, and to the rank of Duke of Edinburgh. Thus is signalized with due state and ceremony his adoption into that Royal Family which is the representative family of all the British peoples. The Poet Laureate, on the day of national rejoicing, set as it is against the chill background of the world's present fortune, hails the Crown as "A gleam, a star, to point men from despair." This is a nation struggling, impoverished, perplexed. It is also a nation rich in new-won glory, and the brave canopy of a royal wedding, the glass coach and the glittering breastplates, the cheering multitudes and the pealing bells, proclaim that the glory is untarnished by the labours which are the aftermath of its winning. This happy Princess who goes now to her bridals is the pledge to us all that, through the inherited valour of the young generation of whom she is

the dedicated leader, the spacious times shall surely come again.

Every wedding is a renewal, and in a royal wedding and its "human hope"—to quote again from Dr Masefield's verses—the whole people sees its own future symbolized. The changeless human relations, the marrying and giving in marriage, the uprising of new generations to bend strong shoulders to the endless task, these are after all the fundamental things in life, and their quality owes nothing to the circumstances with which they are surrounded. The partner nations of the British Commonwealth and all the other communities of the King's allegiance have followed every detail of the life of these two lovers since first their betrothal was announced; the eager popular interest has been scarcely less conspicuous in the United States of America, in France, and indeed among all the friendly nations of the earth. No small part of the confidence that stirs to-day in British hearts comes of being reminded by them by their seniors upon considerations of that worldly expediency which, at the highest level, is called politics.

in foreign lands who have faith in British comradeship and example through all the trials that may yet beset the world. These friendly nations have shown the warmth of their feelings by sending gifts and good wishes to the bride and bridegroom and their leading personalities to attend today's ceremony. Some are represented by statesmen or diplomats, some by kings, queens, and princes, all of these in nearer or remoter degree akin to our own Royal House. To all the distinguished visitors alike the cordial welcome of the British people is extended, and not least to Princess Andrew of Greece, who comes to do honour to her son's chosen bride.

The Royal Family could not be what they are, the natural representatives of the people, if they did not conduct their domestic affairs in the people's way. The time has gone by in England when the marriages of young men and women in palace or college were arranged for them by their seniors upon considerations of that worldly expediency which, at the highest level, is called politics.

There has been no breath of suspicion that this match was negotiated by diplomats, or that bride and bridegroom have been drawn together by any influence but the spontaneous affection of their own hearts. From the moment of her birth the Princess has lived under the eye of the people of Great Britain, and scarcely less under the eye of those beyond the seas who will one day, in all human probability, be her subjects. They have watched with delight her growing up in every simple charm of normal girlhood. They know the bridegroom less well; but they know that he has been brought up among them in the English way, has distinguished himself in manly sports and afterwards in the leadership of men under the enemy's fire. Nothing more was required to surround the union of these two with every happy omen, and commend it both to the circle of their own families and to that great imperial family of which the Princess seems destined to be the head. And yet much more is granted. The bridegroom is a

British subject by native instinct and allegiance, which naturalization has done no more than register. He is the grandson of one of the architects of victory in the first World War, the great Admiral Prince Louis of Battenberg; he is the nephew of the most brilliant of the younger commanders in the second, who has since added a closing and distinguished page to the noble record of the Viceroys of India.

So these two meet before St Edward's shrine at Westminster, and go forth upon the universal human adventure, surrounded by the plaudits and prayers of all who look to them for leadership hereafter. Vowing themselves to one another, they are dedicated by the same vow to a lifetime of unremitting service of the Commonwealth. They will serve first and perhaps best by making their home reflect all that is finest in the life of the younger generation of the Kingdom and Empire, in the same sense that the home of the King and Queen reflects the treasured ideals of the Britishish community as a whole.

## GAY NIGHT SCENE IN LONDON

### EARLY "SQUATTERS" ON THE ROUTE

#### VIGIL IN BLANKETS

Equipped with blankets and pillows, campstools and air mattresses, sandwiches and vacuum flasks, people were already taking up positions last night and early this morning at points that would give them a good view of the Royal Wedding processions. A dense throng gathered outside floodlit Buckingham Palace, anxious to catch a glimpse of today's bride and bridegroom. There was a great burst of cheering when, shortly before 8 o'clock, the King and Queen, Princess Elizabeth, Princess Margaret, and the Duke of Edinburgh, appeared on the balcony, and the cheers were renewed when, soon after 10.30, their Majesties and the two Princesses again appeared and waved to the people.

Earlier in the evening the King and Queen, Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, the bridesmaids and pages had attended a rehearsal for the wedding at Westminster Abbey. When the royal party left, the waiting crowd broke into cheers and pressed forward with cries of "Good luck."

### PRINCESS ELIZABETH SEES THE CAKE

In the ball supper-room at Buckingham Palace, where the wedding breakfast will be held, the official wedding cake, which Princess Elizabeth and her husband will cut, has been put in position in front of the wall mirrors. The Princess examined it yesterday, and talked for a long time to representatives of the makers.

The wedding breakfast decorations will be of pink carnations (the gift of the British Carnation Society) and white heather. These and other flowers, including some thousands of carnations and boxes of mimosa sent as a gift from the South of France, have been arranged by Mr Edward Goodyear. Incorporated in the decoration of the centre table at the wedding breakfast will be sprigs of myrtle taken from a plant raised from some of the myrtle used in Queen Victoria's wedding bouquet.

### THOUSANDS OF VISITORS

An unusual animation stirred the crowds in London throughout the day. Thousands of visitors were sightseeing in the raw November air. From an early hour crowds gathered outside the Palace for any glimpse they might obtain of members of the Royal Family. Whitehall was a centre of great activity. Faded flowers in the window-boxes of Government buildings were being replaced by new. Outside Westminster Abbey the canvas canopies received their final touches of red and gold, decoration. In the West End gaily decorated shop windows added their colour to that of flags and bunting. Many shops displayed large photographs of the Princess and the bridegroom.

In the evening the streets began to take on a carnival air. Along the whole wedding route people were out in their thousands, and vendors of roast chestnuts and official programmes had no difficulty in finding a sale for their wares. The flood-lit Palace was a brave sight, and the brightness of the spectacle was enhanced by the individual lighting of the semi-circle of banners bearing the initials E and P. Many provincial and foreign accents could be detected among the large crowds that milled in front of the Palace, and, judging from the lines of cars parked in the neighbourhood, many motorists had hoarded the remnants of their basic petrol to drive to London for the occasion.

### 18-GUN SALUTE

A salute of 18 guns will be fired at Windsor at noon and the bells of St. George's Chapel Windsor Castle, will be rung at intervals throughout the day. The main streets are decorated with flags and the Guildhall will be decorated today.

### R.A.F. GIFT

In a letter to Marshal of the R.A.F. Lord Tedder, Chief of the Air Staff, Princess Elizabeth expresses her thanks to the R.A.F. and the W.A.A.F. for the gift of a grand piano and a cheque with which to buy other things for her home.

### THE PRINCESS IN IVORY SATIN

*Train 15 ft long  
from our  
Special correspondent*

Princess Elizabeth's wedding dress is in ivory duchess satin cut on classic lines. The fitted bodice has long tight sleeves, with a full falling skirt. The broad heart-shaped neckline of the bodice is delicately embroidered with seed pearls and crystal in a floral design. From the pointed waistline, formed by a girdle of pearl-embroidered star flowers, the swirling skirt is hand embroidered in an exquisite design inspired by the paintings of Botticelli, representing garlands of white York roses carried out in raised pearls, entwined with ears of corn minutely embroidered in crystals and oat-shaped pearls. Alternating between the garlands of roses and wheat and forming a final border around the hem of the skirt are bands of orange blossom and star flowers appliquéd with transparent tulle bordered with seed pearls and crystal.

The full Court train is 15 feet long, of transparent ivory silk tulle attached to the shoulders, and is edged with graduated satin flowers, finally forming a deep border at the end of the fan-shaped train. A reversed type of embroidery, as used on the wedding dress, is employed on the train by the use of appliquéd satin star flowers, roses, and wheat further encrusted with pearl and crystal embroideries. A voluminous bridal veil of crisp white tulle is held by a tiara of pearls and diamonds.

### BRIDESMAIDS' GOWNS

Each of the eight bridesmaids will wear a gown of ivory silk tulle. The tight-fitting bodice is gathered down the centre front, the shoulders are swathed with a deep fichu of pearl-spotted tulle bordered with a delicate trail of appliquéd white satin syringa. The bouffant Victorian skirt of white tulle is scattered with clusters of syringa flowers in applique.

que satin, embroidered to repeat the similar effect of the embroidery on the bridal train. The bridesmaids will wear ivory satin ankle-strap sandals and 16-button length white doeskin gloves.

For going away Princess Elizabeth will wear a simple dress of love-in-the-mist blue crepe with cross-over bodice draped to the left hip and three inset panels in the skirt. She will have a travelling coat of the same colour in velvet cloth with soft revers and rounded shoulders. Inset bands across the coat front are held with three buttons as far as the waist, where the gently flared skirt gives the required fullness. The Princess will wear a high bonnet beret in mist-blue felt, trimmed with a large ostrich pom-pom and curved quills.

### THE HONEYMOON JOURNEY

#### PLANS AT WINCHESTER AND ROMSEY

At Romsey and Winchester final preparations were being made yesterday to greet Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh when they arrive to spend part of their honeymoon at Broadlands, the home of Earl Mountbatten. They will leave the train at Winchester station, which will be hung with flowers sent from London. The city council was given permission on Tuesday to arrange a civic reception, and the first woman Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Mrs Crompton, will welcome the bride and bridegroom.

At Romsey the flags were raised yesterday, and the main square, the Corn Market, the "Hundreds," Palmerston Street, and part of the Winchester road and bypass will be decorated. Alderman Mitchell has ordered 2,000 cards bearing the Royal Coat-of-arms, the arms of the Borough of Romsey, and a photograph of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. He will present them to children and to the workmen who decorated the town. Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Romsey Abbey for morning service on Sunday.

# The royal marriage



“

Cherish Lilibet?  
I wonder if that word  
is enough to express  
what is in me. [She is]  
the only ‘thing’ in  
this world which is  
absolutely real to me...  
and my ambition is to  
weld the two of us  
into a new combined  
existence that will  
not only be able to  
withstand the shocks  
directed at us but will  
also have a positive  
existence for the good

”

Prince Philip In a letter to his mother-in-law while on  
honeymoon in Birkhall, 1947

“

There has been no  
strangeness between  
us. We behave as  
though we had  
belonged to  
each other for years

”

Princess Elizabeth In a letter to her mother shortly after  
her wedding

▲ The newlyweds stroll in  
the grounds of Broadlands,  
the Mountbattens' home  
in Hampshire, on their  
honeymoon in 1947

► Looking at photographs  
of their wedding





# The royal marriage



# The King is dead: long live the Queen

At the age of only 25, Princess Elizabeth was crowned Queen, and had to take on the exacting role that fate had thrust on her, writes Valentine Low

**A**s King George VI died in his sleep, it is hard to give an exact time that Princess Elizabeth became the Queen. This much is certain, however — she was high up in a fig tree in Kenya surrounded by wild animals and did not hear the news until some hours later.

She and Philip were staying at the Treetops Hotel in a tree overlooking a salt lick where they could watch the wildlife, on the first leg of a tour that was due to take them to Australia and New Zealand.

On the morning of February 6, 1952, knowing nothing of what had happened at home, they had returned to Sagana Lodge, the farm given to them by the Kenyan government as a wedding present. Michael Parker, one of the royal party, was told the news over the phone by Martin Charteris, the Queen's private secretary, who was at a hotel a few miles away.

Parker crept around the house to attract Philip's attention and beckoned him out onto the lawn. The news left the duke utterly shocked.

By the time Charteris found the new Queen, she was at her desk drafting letters of apology for the cancellation of the tour. "What are you going to call yourself?" he asked. "My own name, of course," she replied. "What else?"

On her way back to London she changed out of the jeans that she had been wearing at Sagana Lodge into the mourning clothes that always travelled with her. Outwardly she was calm, a woman who despite her

relative youth — she was only 25 — appeared ready for the role that fate had thrust on her; inside, she was doing her best to conceal the grief that she felt at the loss of her father.

On the tarmac at Heathrow, after a journey lasting 24 hours, she was greeted by Winston Churchill. The prime minister, who was accompanied by the leader of the opposition Clement Attlee, the lord president of the council Lord Woolton, the foreign secretary Anthony Eden, and other privy counsellors, seemed so overcome by emotion that he could not speak.

The next day, at the formal proclamation of herself as Queen at St James's Palace — 16 months before the Coronation — Elizabeth spoke of "this heavy task that has been laid upon me so early in my life".

She said: "My heart is too full for me to say more to you today than that I shall always work, as my father did throughout his reign, to uphold constitutional government and to advance the happiness and prosperity of my peoples, spread as they are all the world over."

One of those present recalled how "a slight figure dressed in deep mourning entered the great room alone, and, with strong, but perfectly controlled emotion, went through the exacting task the Constitution prescribed."

While she settled into her new role as sovereign, Philip found life as second fiddle to the Queen a distinct challenge. He was furious about the decision that the royal family would not take his name — Mountbatten — but would continue to be known as the House of Windsor, uttering the now legendary remark: "I'm nothing but a bloody amoeba."





▲ Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Prince Charles watch the Coronation from the royal box in Westminster Abbey

▲ The royal family gather on the Buckingham Palace balcony after the Coronation

▲ An official portrait of the Queen and Prince Philip on Coronation Day

▲ The Queen is greeted on her return to England from Kenya after the death of George VI

His sense of being sidelined was made worse by the attitude of some of the more stuffed-shirt courtiers, who did their best to make him feel a vulgar interloper.

In an attempt to soothe his ruffled ego, and in deference to his organisational ability, Elizabeth put him in charge of the Coronation commission. There too he had to cope with the forces of conservatism, in the form of his deputy chairman, the 16th Duke of Norfolk, a bluff, sporting figure who was not blessed with great intellectual ability, but had experience of organising large state occasions.

The biggest clash between the forces representing the old ways and the new came over whether television cameras would be allowed into Westminster Abbey for the Coronation. During the planning the modernisers were keen to have the ceremony televised, while the traditionalists were opposed, arguing that it was essential to preserve the mystique of royalty.

It was also felt that there were moments of the ceremony that were so sacred, they should remain private. The Queen sided with the traditionalists, as did Churchill, who felt that allowing in television would put too much strain on her, and an announcement was made that TV would be banned from the Abbey.

There was immediate uproar. The papers demanded "Let the people see the Queen", and the Palace soon beat a hasty retreat. It was the Queen who decided that it was time to listen to the people.

The TV cameras were allowed into the Abbey, but — in a last concession for those who wanted to preserve at least some of the magic — they were not allowed to film the anointing and the communion, the most sacred parts of the service.

# The royal marriage 1940s and 1950s



▲ Prince Philip and Princess Elizabeth at a square dance held in their honour in Ottawa in 1951

◀ The royal couple in 1949, in Malta, where Philip served with the Royal Navy

► The Queen and Philip with Prince Charles and Princess Anne, in the grounds of Clarence House

▼ Taking a cruise on the Seine in 1948, during an official visit to France



## A young naval family—and a sudden call to duty

After the couple's wedding children had followed, entirely on schedule. Prince Charles and later Princess Anne found themselves left at home, however, while their parents were in Malta. Prince Philip was posted there as second-in-command of HMS Chequers and Princess Elizabeth would often fly out to join him (in those days, children did not rule the royal roost).

It was there between 1949 and 1951 that she was able to live "happy days", as she later referred to them, as a naval officer's wife. She celebrated her 24th birthday and second wedding anniversary there. All this came to an abrupt end when her father, George VI, died at the age of 56. Elizabeth's new role meant the end of Philip's naval career.

Her accession to the throne heralded an explosion of patriotism and royal fever that would dwarf anything we have seen in recent years, with thousands lining the

streets to watch the procession, and millions more watching it crowded round tiny, flickering screens.

Within five months of her Coronation she set out with Philip on the most ambitious royal tour that had been seen, flying to Bermuda and then to Jamaica before visiting Fiji and Tonga.

The Queen and Philip reached New Zealand before Christmas and stayed for just over a month. They then spent February and March in Australia, before travelling back to England via Ceylon, Aden, Uganda, Libya and Malta, where they were reunited with their children.

All together at last, they were able to sail back to London on the new Royal Yacht Britannia. The trip proved hugely successful, with thousands of people turning out to welcome the Queen on her whirlwind world tour. **Valentine Low**





► The Queen and Prince Philip in Hamilton, Bermuda, in 1953

▼ Inspecting men of the newly renamed Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment during her 1956 Commonwealth tour

▼ The Queen and the duke on the bridge of the Gothic, during the visit to Miraflores Locks, Panama, on the 1953-54 royal tour

▼ The royal couple attend a children's gathering in Wellington during their New Zealand tour in 1954



# The royal marriage 1960s and 1970s



## Britain's royal 'It' couple, lauded around the world

The Queen — with Prince Philip a constant at her side — was the most-travelled monarch in history. She came to the throne at the beginning of the jet age, and at a time when Britain was not only a significant world power, but was still hanging on to the last vestiges of an empire; there was a lot of the world to visit, and the means to do so.

Their travels around the globe were not only a chance to revel in the admiration of the crowds who would turn out to see them; they were also an exercise in soft diplomacy as the UK worked out its place in a fast-changing world.

Sometimes the news was better than expected: a tour of India in 1961, only 14 years after the country's independence from Britain, might have prompted a wave of anti-colonialist demonstrations. However, the trip turned out to be remarkably successful. In

New Delhi, more than a million wellwishers turned out to see the royal couple.

At home they were getting used to having a young family again. After a gap of ten years, Prince Andrew was born in 1960 and Edward in 1964. They were delighted with the new arrivals. The royal marriage had not always run smoothly and when the Queen was pregnant with Andrew one friend observed how "frightfully pleased and happy with each other" the couple were. "After all, they had had their ups and downs."

In a reversal of roles that was unusual for the time it was Philip who took on key decisions regarding their children and family life — choosing schools for Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Andrew and Edward. The Queen believed that his role as head of the family was "the natural state of things".

**Valentine Low**





▲ The Queen and Prince Philip on a flight in 1969

◀ The royal couple watch competitors at the 1968 Badminton Horse Trials

◀ The Queen is shaded from the sun while riding on an elephant during a procession in Varanasi, northern India, as part of the 1961 tour

► The Queen and Philip with their children in the garden at the Frogmore estate in 1968

▼ On the Great Wall of China during a state visit in 1986, when she became the first British monarch to visit China



# The royal marriage 1980s and 1990s



▲ The Queen and Prince Philip in Tuvalu in the South Pacific in 1982



► The couple among the tributes to Diana, Princess of Wales, after her death in 1997

► Together at the Royal Windsor Horse Show at Windsor Castle in 1970

◀ The Queen with Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer, his fiancée, in 1981

▼ On the balcony at Buckingham Palace after Charles and Diana's wedding

▼ The Queen and Philip wave to well-wishers in Wellington, New Zealand, in 1981

▼► The Queen with Philip and five of their grandchildren: Prince Harry, Prince William, Princess Eugenie, Princess Beatrice, and Zara Phillips



## Weddings, divorces and the tragedy that shook a nation

If any observer were in doubt about the marriage of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, the tests of the 1980s and 1990s would show their unwavering bond and the strength that they took from each other.

In the early 1980s the Queen might have thought that her family were the least of her problems. Princess Anne had wed and produced two grandchildren, Prince Charles had found a bride in the youthful Lady Diana Spencer and Prince Andrew was a war hero, having served as a helicopter pilot in the Falklands conflict.

Charles and Diana's wedding was a royalist's dream, lighting up the economic gloom in the same way that his parents' union had done more than 33 years earlier. Five years after his brother tied the knot, Andrew married Sarah Ferguson, whose noisy good nature seemed like a breath of fresh air for stuffy Palace life.

How quickly it all unravelled. By 1992, the Queen's

self-proclaimed *annus horribilis*, Anne and Mark Phillips were getting divorced, Andrew and Sarah, the Duchess of York, had separated and the gruesome details of Charles's disastrous marriage were laid bare in Andrew Morton's book *Diana: Her True Story*. Then a fire destroyed much of Windsor Castle.

The nadir came in 1997 when Diana was killed in a car crash in Paris. The Queen believed that she was doing the right thing by staying out of the public eye at Balmoral, giving a safe haven to Prince William and Prince Harry, but the public thought otherwise, viewing her as cold and unfeeling. She managed to turn the situation around by returning to London to view the flowers laid in memory of Diana — with Philip by her side — and giving a finely worded tribute to the late princess, but it was a close-run thing.

**Valentine Low**



PETER NICHOLS /TIMES NEWSPAPERS; PRESS ASSOCIATION; TIM GRAHAM/GETTY; ANWAR HUSSEIN/GETTY; DONALD STEWART



“  
He is someone who doesn't take easily to compliments, but he has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years, and I, and his whole family, and this and many other countries, owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim or we shall ever know  
”

**The Queen pays tribute to her husband in a speech to mark their golden wedding anniversary**



# The royal marriage 2000s to 2010s



▲ The royal family on the balcony of Buckingham Palace after the Trooping the Colour ceremony in 2015

► The Duke of Edinburgh at the Royal Windsor Horse Show in 2005

► The Duke and Duchess of Sussex show their new son, Archie, to the Queen and the duke at Windsor Castle in 2019

▼ Greeting guests attending the Patron's Lunch celebrations for the Queen's 90th birthday on The Mall

► Arriving at St Paul's Cathedral in 2006 for a service of thanksgiving in honour of the Queen's 80th birthday



## The great-grandparents enjoying a golden era

The crisis years of the 1990s were followed by a period of consolidation in which Queen Elizabeth came to be seen as a matriarch who had led a life driven by duty and service. She was also prepared to forgive others, giving a speech at the 2005 wedding of Prince Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles on how they had overcome "terrible obstacles" to reach "the winner's enclosure".

If Buckingham Palace was not sure how well the 2002 Golden Jubilee would go down — very well, was the answer — ten years later the royal household could be pretty confident that the Diamond Jubilee would result in a genuine outpouring of affection. This was cemented by the image of the Queen and Prince Philip braving rain and wind, standing for nearly four hours waving to crowds from the royal barge.

In September 2015 the Queen became Britain's longest reigning monarch; in October 2016 she became

the longest reigning monarch alive, with the death of Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej. Even late in life the Queen and Philip never lost their star power. On the Queen's 90th birthday they received the Obamas for lunch at Windsor, greeting their helicopter in a Land Rover. The president was told to hop in the front, with Philip at the wheel; Michelle got in the back with the Queen.

Philip retired from public duties in 2017; the Queen gradually handed over some of her public duties to Charles. Yet there were still challenges. The winter of 2019–20 was a tumultuous time, with the Duke of York and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex ceasing royal duties; Andrew because he had to, Harry and Meghan because they wanted to. In both cases the Queen acted swiftly and decisively. She was still in charge.

**Valentine Low**



TIM GRAHAM/GETTY; FACUNDO ARRIZABALAGA/EPA; ARTHUR EDWARDS; CHRIS ALLERTON/SUSSEX ROYAL/PA; JULIAN FINNEY/GETTY



# The royal marriage 2020-2021



## Lunch with Philip every day before a lonely final farewell

For the Queen, coronavirus restrictions brought at least one benefit. Prince Philip, who had been spending much of his retirement at Wood Farm on the Sandringham estate, came to join her in her coronavirus bubble at Windsor, where she enjoyed the renewed pleasure of having lunch with her husband every day.

She and Philip had their first vaccinations in January 2021. The Palace had been reluctant to speculate about when she would have the jab, fearing that it would open the floodgates on future health inquiries, but later the Queen made a rare intervention, telling NHS officials in charge of the rollout that people should be urged to "think about others rather than themselves".

Philip was admitted to the private King Edward VII's Hospital in Marylebone, London, after feeling unwell

at Windsor, for what was initially described as "a few days of observation and rest". He contracted an infection and was later transferred to St Bartholomew's Hospital for surgery relating to a pre-existing heart condition, where he spent a few days before being sent back to King Edward's. He was discharged in March after four weeks as an inpatient.

Philip died at Windsor on April 9, 2021, just over two months before what would have been his 100th birthday. They had been married for 73 years. At his funeral, a pared-down service at St George's Chapel, Windsor, she cut a lonely figure. A wreath of white flowers was placed on Philip's coffin, with a handwritten card from the Queen that said simply: "In loving memory." It was said to have been signed with her nickname, from childhood, "Lilibet".

**Valentine Low**





▲ The Queen and Prince Philip read a card from their great-grandchildren for their 73rd wedding anniversary in November 2020

▲ At a Paris garden party in June 2014 to commemorate the D-Day landings

▲ The Queen riding a pony at Windsor in May 2020

▲ The couple reunited at Windsor in June 2020

▲ The Queen and Prince William open the Energetics Analysis Centre at Porton Down in October 2020

► The Queen cut an isolated figure at the pared-down funeral for Prince Philip at St George's Chapel, Windsor, on April 17, 2021. He died just over two months before his 100th birthday

▼ Pallbearers carry the coffin of Philip, followed by members of the royal family, into the chapel

▼▼ For a royal funeral, it was light on pageantry: as a practical man, Philip had requested that it be relatively simple



“

It is with deep sorrow that Her Majesty The Queen announces the death of her beloved husband, His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. His Royal Highness passed away peacefully this morning at Windsor Castle... the Royal Family join with people around the world in mourning his loss.

”



# The royal marriage Life after Philip



▲ The Queen accompanied by Prince Andrew at the service of thanksgiving for the Duke of Edinburgh in March 2022

was said to be the Queen's favourite event, in May 2022

► Delivering the Queen's Speech in the House of Lords for the state opening of parliament in May 2021

▼ The Queen with Prince Edward and the Countess of Wessex, at the Royal Windsor Horse Show, which



## With typical stoicism, she continued a life of service

Prince Philip's death last year robbed the Queen of a towering support in her life. Yet her return to public duties was swift and uncomplaining, writes Matthew Dennison

**T**he Queen's response to the death of the man she described as her "dear late husband" and her "strength and stay", in April 2021, was exactly as the nation would have expected. The Countess of Wessex, her daughter-in-law, described her as "amazing" in the weeks that followed the Duke of Edinburgh's death at the age of 99; at the televised funeral service, the monarch, poignantly seated alone because of coronavirus restrictions, appeared characteristically self-controlled, stoical, impressive.

That self-control was much in evidence in the Queen's return to public duties after the fortnight-long period of family mourning. As Lord Runcie, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, had noted in the 1990s, "with her, duty comes first, even above family problems", and so it was as spring turned to summer in 2021. At the time Palace employees reminded me of the Queen's promise of lifelong service made in Cape Town on her 21st birthday in 1947; they pointed to her pleasure in "getting out and about and meeting people".

Business as usual was the Palace line, wholeheartedly endorsed, it seemed, by its nonagenarian team leader. In her customary bright colour-block outfits, attended by her closest ladies-in-waiting, including Lady Susan Hussey — in waiting since 1960 and at the Queen's side for the short journey from Windsor Castle to St George's Chapel for the duke's funeral — the Queen resumed the business of criss-crossing the country, meeting subjects of all backgrounds, the familiar smile in place, her private feelings concealed from public view. She maintained aspects of the "hybrid" working life her advisers had evolved during lockdown: she received ambassadors virtually and, as head of the Commonwealth, remained in touch with leaders of the 54 nations, the governors-general and representatives of initiatives such as the Queen's Commonwealth Trust, founded in 2018 to raise funds for young people. Every day the red boxes arrived at Windsor Castle; the



▲ The Queen with her Fell ponies Bybeck Nightingale and Bybeck Katie, in a portrait released to mark her 96th birthday

► Chatting with Prince Louis, as his mother Duchess of Cambridge looks on, during Trooping the Colour at the start of 2022's Platinum Jubilee celebrations



business of state continued. For a widow of 95, it was impressive. The Earl of Wessex had referred to his mother "bearing up".

Brought up to consider self-control intrinsic to good manners, the Queen did not allow her behaviour to betray her suffering. Yet the change in her life was profound. She was only 13 when, more than 80 years earlier, she had met the handsome, square-jawed 18-year-old Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark and fallen in love on the spot, never to waver in her affections. Together they had shared hopes, dreams, the building of a family and the busiest, most public, exacting working lives. Their final weeks were spent in greater privacy than they had enjoyed since their early married days on Malta, reunited by the pandemic — the Queen released from public duties, the duke joining his wife at Windsor Castle from his retirement at Wood Farm on the Sandringham estate.

A month after his death, a sombre Queen undertook the first ceremonial duty of her widowhood, the state opening of parliament. She was dressed in the same flower-print outfit she had worn for photographs released in 2020 to mark Philip's 99th birthday. Unlike her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, she did not wallow in her sadness. She went racing at Royal Ascot. And she dispensed with the traditional black-bordered writing paper — instead, on stationery, her crest appeared in black rather than red.

Philip's death, however, was a reminder of her own mortality. To a close friend, with customary dry understatement, she revealed that henceforth she considered herself "in the waiting room". It was a sentiment at odds with her public statements. Responding on her behalf to *The Oldie* magazine's offer of its Oldie of the Year award, the Queen's private secretary wrote: "Her Majesty believes you are as old as you feel, as such the Queen does not believe she meets the relevant criteria to be able to accept, and hopes you find a more worthy recipient."

Publicly and privately, she was supported by members of her family and a small team of trusted intimates, including Susan Hussey and her dresser, Angela Kelly. In the summer of 2021, during her annual week's residence at Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh, she carried out engagements accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge and the Princess Royal. Commentators remarked on her good cheer and the unflagging pace of her swift return to public life that continued into the autumn, after the customary summer break at Balmoral. Then in October came the shock of her forced cancellation of a visit to Northern Ireland.

Throughout her life, the Queen had enjoyed unusually robust health: a courtier once described her physical stamina as yak-like. No longer. In the last years of her life she was to be dogged by what the Palace called "mobility issues", a source of frustration to an

elderly monarch who, at the time of her Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022, reaffirmed her determination to continue en poste.

Royal intimates revealed that there were good days and bad days. In a break with previous working practice, engagements were cancelled last-minute. That she was conserving dwindling energy appeared clear. She was present nevertheless at a memorial service for Philip at Westminster Abbey — dressed in a colour known in royal circles as Edinburgh green — and at key events of the jubilee celebrations. Nothing shook her popularity: increasingly sporadic appearances inspired waves of affection for a sovereign who had given her life to public service. The announcement, in the spring of 2022, that she would continue to live mostly at Windsor Castle, with no planned return to Buckingham Palace, symbolised her scaling down. It offered closeness to her memories of Philip, her wider family and her much-loved Fell ponies. As was her tradition, she moved to her beloved Balmoral for the summer. It was here that she was to carry out her final public duties — accepting the resignation of Boris Johnson as prime minister, and asking Liz Truss to form a new government, two days before her death.

**Matthew Dennison's biography of Elizabeth II, *The Queen*, is published by Head of Zeus**

# The royal marriage Eight decades of partnership

## 1939 Young love

Naval cadet Philip, 18, is introduced to 13-year-old Elizabeth while she is on a tour of the Royal Naval College in Dartmouth with her parents. They soon start exchanging letters



## 1946 Proposal

Philip proposes to Elizabeth during a holiday at Balmoral and she accepts immediately, without consulting her parents. Philip then asks King George VI for his daughter's hand in marriage. The King's proviso is that the engagement be kept a secret until Elizabeth's 21st birthday in April 1947 – it is announced on July 9



## 1947 Marriage

Philip and Elizabeth marry on November 20 at Westminster Abbey. The wedding is broadcast by BBC radio to 200 million people. The couple receive an estimated 10,000 telegrams of congratulation. They spend their wedding night at Broadlands in Hampshire, the home of Prince Philip's uncle Earl Mountbatten. The rest of their honeymoon is spent at Birkhall on the Balmoral estate



## 1948 Charles is born

The couple's first marital home is Windlesham Moor in Surrey. Their first child, Charles Philip Arthur George, is born on November 14 at Buckingham Palace. A year later, on July 4, they move in to Clarence House in London. In October Prince Philip is stationed as a naval officer in Malta. Elizabeth visits him there, leaving nannies to look after Charles in London

## 1950 A baby girl

The couple's second child, Anne Elizabeth Alice Louise, is born on August 15 at Clarence House. Philip is promoted to the rank of lieutenant-commander in the Royal Navy. After the birth, he is said to have told friends: "It's the sweetest girl!"



## 1952 The King is dead

While on an official visit to Kenya, the couple stay at the country's oldest safari lodge, Treetops, and the royal residence, Sagana Lodge. It is at the latter that Philip breaks the news to his wife on February 6 that her father, George VI, has died in his sleep at the age of 56



## 1953 Coronation

The Coronation of Elizabeth II is on June 2 at Westminster Abbey, more than a year after she ascended the throne. It is the first British coronation to be televised. The ceremony takes months of preparation under the stewardship of Prince Philip



## 1953 First tour as sovereign

Within five months of her Coronation, the Queen sets out on November 24 on the most ambitious royal tour yet seen, accompanied by her husband. They visit 13 countries in the West Indies, Australasia, Asia and Africa, covering 30,000 miles

## 1960 A new prince

Andrew Albert Christian Edward is born on February 19 at Buckingham Palace. At his birth his elder sister, Anne, loses her place as second in line to the throne



## 1964 Family complete

Edward Anthony Richard Louis, the Queen and Prince Philip's fourth and last child, is born on March 10 at Buckingham Palace. It is the first birth of the couple's four children that Philip attends

## 1997 Golden wedding anniversary

At an anniversary lunch at the Banqueting House in London on November 20, the Queen looks back on a "remarkable 50 years" and pays warm tribute to her husband. The "people's banquet" is hosted by the prime minister Tony Blair and attended by guests from all walks of life, including John Major, Kate Bush, Mike Atherton and Darcey Bussell



## 2002 Jubilee tour

To mark the 50th anniversary of her accession to the throne, the 76-year-old Queen and 81-year-old Philip spend a year travelling more than 4,000 miles to the Caribbean, Australia, New Zealand, then around the UK, and finish in Canada



## 2007 Diamond wedding anniversary

The Queen and Prince Philip hold a service at Westminster Abbey and visit Broadlands in Hampshire, where they spent the first night of their honeymoon

## 2012 Diamond Jubilee

On June 3 the Queen and Philip, accompanied by their children and grandchildren, travel down the Thames on the royal barge Spirit of Charwell, standing in the rain during a 1,000-strong flotilla to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The next day the duke is admitted to hospital with a bladder infection and the Queen attends a pop concert held on The Mall without him



## 2017 Philip retires

On August 2, Philip, 96, oversees a parade of the Royal Marines at Buckingham Palace, the last of 22,219 solo engagements in his role as royal consort. In November he and the Queen mark their 70th wedding anniversary with family at Windsor Castle. In her Christmas message the Queen praises Philip's "support and unique sense of humour". After retiring Philip moves to Wood Farm, a no-frills five-bedroom cottage on the Sandringham estate, where he spends his days reading, painting and carriage riding



## 2020 Royal lockdown

As the coronavirus sweeps Britain, Prince Philip is flown to Windsor Castle from Wood Farm, where he has lived since retirement. Here the couple spend their 94th and 99th birthdays, before attending the wedding of Princess Beatrice at Royal Lodge, Windsor, on July 17

## 2021 Death of the Duke

On the morning of April 9, Prince Philip dies at Windsor Castle with the Queen at his side. At his funeral on April 17 the Queen cuts a lonely figure in socially distanced seating in St George's Chapel, an event attended by his close family and friends only

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QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926-2022

# The next 10 days

What happens when on Her Majesty's final journey

## DAY 1

### Today

The Queen's coffin will remain at Balmoral, giving her staff a chance to pay their respects. The coffin will remain in the ballroom of her Scottish estate.



The Queen's coffin will be placed on a gun carriage and accompanied by The King's Troop

## DAY 2

### Tomorrow

The Queen's coffin is expected to be driven 100 miles south from Balmoral to Holyroodhouse Palace, Edinburgh, where it will lie at rest in the throne room.

## Where to sign a book of condolence

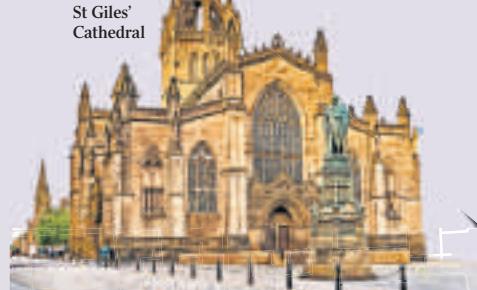
Includes royal palaces only



## DAY 3

### Monday

King Charles is expected to return to Scotland to join the Queen's coffin on a procession up the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral. A ceremony will take place there before the public lying at rest. It is thought that members of the public will be allowed to file past and that there will be a Vigil of the Princes conducted by members of the Royal Family.



## DAY 4

### Tuesday

The coffin will be flown from Edinburgh to London, where it is expected to rest in the throne room at Buckingham Palace. A rehearsal for its procession from the palace to Westminster Hall will take place.



Buckingham Palace

Procession route

Constitution Hill

Wellington Arch

GREEN PARK

The Mall

ST JAMES



Palace of  
Holyroodhouse

EDINBURGH

ROYAL MILE

Procession route

Holyrood Rd

St Giles'  
Cathedral

Waverley  
rail station

Princes Street

Princes Street  
Gardens

Calton Hill

South

Bridge

Holyrood  
Park

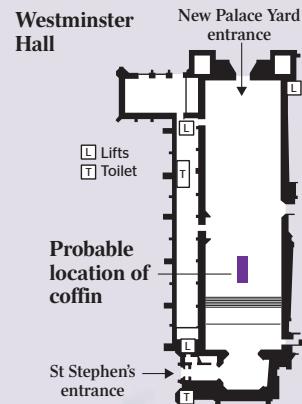
300 yards

## DAY 5

# Wednesday

The coffin will be draped in the royal standard and adorned with the imperial state crown, before it is placed upon a gun carriage and taken to Westminster Hall in the Palace of Westminster. The King's Troop will take the carriage along the Mall, across Horse Guards Parade and down Whitehall to Westminster Hall. It will be placed on a catafalque, a raised platform, and will remain there for five days.

It will be under constant vigil by the King's bodyguards. At one stage, another Vigil of the Princes will take place, conducted by the Queen's children and senior royals. Members of the public will be allowed to file past the coffin. In 2002, at the lying in state of the Queen Mother, 200,000 people came to pay their respects.



Members of the public filing through Westminster Hall, London, to pay their tributes at the lying-in-state of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965



The Ceremonial Funeral of The Queen Mother at Westminster Abbey in 2002

Afterwards, the coffin will travel by gun carriage to Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner. A royal salute and a rendition of the national anthem will take place. It will be transferred to the state hearse.

The Queen's coffin will be taken to St George's Chapel in Windsor. She will be buried there at the King George VI Memorial Chapel in a private ceremony with members of the royal family, beginning at 7pm.

## DAY 6

# Thursday

The lying in state continues while a rehearsal for the state funeral procession is expected to take place.

## DAY 7-9

# Fri to Sun

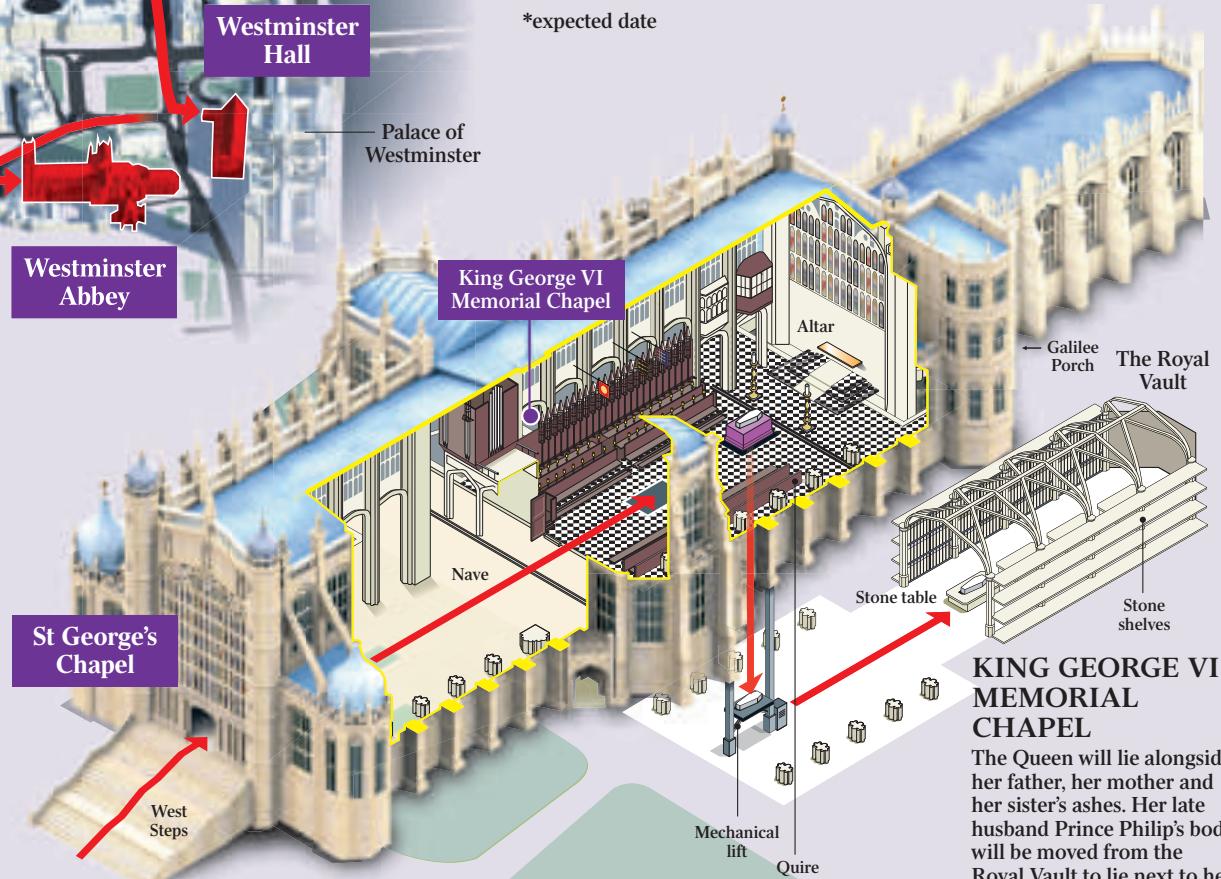
The lying in state continues, ending on the Sunday.

## DAY 10 STATE FUNERAL

# Monday, September 19\*

At 10.30am, the bearer party will take the coffin onto a state gun carriage at the north door of Westminster Hall. Members of the royal family will follow it to Westminster Abbey. The funeral will be held at 11am, likely to be conducted by the Dean of Westminster. The Last Post and Reveille will sound at the end, followed by God Save the King.

\*expected date





“

WHEREVER YOU MAY LIVE IN THE  
UNITED KINGDOM, OR IN THE REALMS  
AND TERRITORIES ACROSS THE WORLD,  
AND WHATEVER MAY BE YOUR  
BACKGROUND OR BELIEFS, I SHALL  
ENDEAVOUR TO SERVE YOU WITH  
LOYALTY, RESPECT AND LOVE

---

KING CHARLES III, SEPTEMBER 9 2022

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DANIEL LEAL  
AND YUI MOK



36



Russo's instinctive back-heeled finish against Sweden in the semi-final was one of the goals of the tournament

England's starting centre forward after the retirement of Ellen White. "There was absolutely no rivalry at all between us at the Euros," Russo says. "I grew up watching Ellen banging in goals. She's an idol. When I first came into the England camp, she took me under her wing and guided me. I tried to learn as much as I could from her.

"I messaged her after the news [of her retirement]. I was gutted. She's a true pioneer." So is she now England's No 9? "No, not yet," Russo replies. "I've still got a lot of work to do. My game is always developing."

Yet the interest in her after the Euros was intense. "I went to the Tower of London a few weeks ago to hand my boots over to the Beefeaters and they were putting them in there [near the crown jewels]. It was surreal. We were shielded from all the attention while we were in camp and then to come out and see it all was like, 'Woah, things are pretty crazy!'"

Toone features large in Russo's conversation. "We're actually polar opposites in everything we do but we just get on like a house on fire," she says. "She brings out a more jokey side to me and sometimes I get her to do stuff that she probably wouldn't do — normal life stuff. 'Tooney' is not the most switched on with stuff like putting a wash on, getting the train to London. She's lived in a Manchester bubble! She's learning that she's got to get on with life now she's becoming a superstar. We balance each other very well!"

Along with Toone, Mary Earps and Nikita Parris, Russo was presented on the Old Trafford pitch before the men's Liverpool game. "I didn't get the leather jacket memo," she laughs. "I'm glad I didn't because we might have looked a bit like a girl band! I'm glad I went with a blazer!"

"The summer was a watershed moment for people to go and see women's football. And now, if there's one bigger stage than the Euros, it's the World Cup. Now qualifications ticked off [for Australia and New Zealand next summer] it's something that we can really plan towards."

Russo was in training at Carrington yesterday and the break may give her a chance to help out the Manchester United Foundation again. "It's something I'm passionate about and it stems a little bit from going to university in America because we had such an amazing outreach

programme, helping in children's hospitals, and coaching disabled sessions," Russo says. "The Foundation at United is really important to us. Toone and I went to Stretford High [School] and did a session with some young girls there."

"To play football is a privilege. I love representing that United badge and the same with England. I have the best job in the world but to go and help people that maybe aren't as fortunate is what I find most rewarding. Just putting smiles on people's faces is something I love doing."

America I started to work more on my left and make it a strength rather than a weakness."

Also very prominent in Russo's repertoire is her heading, exploiting some of the excellent service from the likes of Ella Toone and Leah Williamson. "I've got quite a big frame and when I get balls like that it's hard to not score," Russo dead-pans. "I like to head the ball. I know there's lots of ongoing issues with it [the risk of damage from repetitive heading] but you've just got to manage yourself. When we do crossing and finishing I don't let it stop me."

It wasn't a header or drive that hit the headlines at the Euros after a certain goal against Sweden. "Kelly Smith commented on my backheel goal," she says. "Even the great Wambach tweeted, 'I dreamed of scoring such a goal!' That was the best part for me, to have praise from players like Abby Wambach and Smith. For Abby to comment on it was a cool moment because she was an unbelievable striker. People started to ask if I could do loads of tricks and skills but the backheel was a one-off."

Russo is now widely considered

**“**  
Just putting smiles on people's faces is something I love doing

**“**  
Being females in the sport, things haven't necessarily come easily

# 'I waited 11 years to be a No 1 ... but so far I've been average'

Danny Ward insists he has not been fazed by filling Schmeichel void at struggling Leicester City. By Charlotte Duncker

Bottom of the Premier League, no clean sheets, 16 goals conceded and no wins after six games. This was not the start Danny Ward was hoping for after finally establishing himself as the Leicester City No 1.

Having played back-up to Kasper Schmeichel since he joined from Liverpool in 2018, the 29-year-old is in the position he has been striving for throughout his entire career, but if the battle to get there was tough, the task facing him and his team-mates is even tougher. It has been a difficult summer for Leicester, with a small budget resulting in Wout Faes being the only new outfield signing — and his arrival was a replacement for Wesley Fofana, one of the club's brightest talents.

Along with the departure of the France defender to Chelsea for £70 million, Schmeichel, the club captain, left for Nice. But amid all the uncertainty there was one decision Brendan Rodgers found easy. When it became clear that Schmeichel was going to leave, the Leicester manager had a conversation with Ward to let him know that he would be his first-choice goalkeeper.

It was a moment that Ward had, at times, doubted would ever come during his 11 years as a professional. But despite having made only one appearance in the top flight for Leicester since his arrival, Rodgers has been unwavering in his support of the Wales goalkeeper.

However, Ward knows that there is always room for improvement and was honest about his early season form.

"Probably average," Ward says about his performances. "I know I can do a lot better, but again it comes down to a confidence thing."

The confidence issue is not, despite what some have said, down to Schmeichel's exit. The Denmark goalkeeper spent 11 years at the King Power Stadium and helped the club to win the Premier League title in 2015–16. Ward, though, is not daunted by the prospect of filling the enormous void left by the 35-year-old.

"No, I wouldn't say I felt pressure to replace him because I've always believed in myself and believed I could be a No 1," he says. "No professional footballer wants to be on the bench — that's the same for goalkeepers and Kasper being here [made it] difficult for me to get game time."

The pitfalls of being the No 1 are the constant scrutiny and criticism that



Ward has had a nightmare start to the season, conceding 16 Premier League goals

## How they stand

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GDPts
Arsenal	6	5	0	1	14	7	7 15
Man City	6	4	2	0	20	6	14 14
Tottenham	6	4	2	0	12	5	7 14
Brighton	6	4	1	1	11	5	6 13
Man United	6	4	0	2	8	8	0 12
Chelsea	6	3	1	2	8	9	-1 10
Liverpool	6	2	3	1	15	6	9 9
Brentford	6	2	3	1	15	9	6 9
Leeds	6	2	2	2	10	10	0 8
Fulham	6	2	2	2	9	9	0 8
Newcastle	6	1	4	1	7	6	1 7
Southampton	6	2	1	3	7	10	-3 7
Bournemouth	6	2	1	3	5	18	-13 7
Wolves	6	1	3	2	3	4	-1 6
Crystal Palace	6	1	3	2	7	9	-2 6
Everton	6	0	4	2	4	6	-2 4
Aston Villa	6	1	1	4	5	10	-5 4
West Ham	6	1	1	4	3	8	-5 4
Nott Forest	6	1	1	4	4	14	-10 4
Leicester	6	0	1	5	8	16	-8 1

comes with every mistake, not that Ward has taken much notice. He and the rest of the squad do not need to trawl through negative online abuse to know that their performances this season need to improve.

One point from their opening six league games is the club's worst start to a season since 1983–84. But why have things gone so badly wrong when these players have been used to competing at the top end of the table and played in Europe last season?

"If we knew then we wouldn't be in this position," Ward says. "There are many factors, but you can never pinpoint one. We can't blame the transfer window for the performances that we have put out on the pitch. Sometimes it doesn't help in terms of personnel, but as players our job isn't to sort transfers out, our job is on the pitch regardless. We've got a group of players who can achieve something and we all know each other's qualities."

## Pogba's older brother denies trying to blackmail him

Paul Pogba's brother has denied trying to blackmail and extort money from the ex-Manchester United star.

Mathias Pogba last month posted a video online in which he promised "great revelations" about the France and Juventus midfielder.

Paul Pogba, 29, told investigators that a gang of blackmailers, including his brother, wanted to discredit him by claiming he asked a holy man to cast a spell on his France team-mate, Kylian Mbappé. But in a statement issued by his lawyer, Richard Arribi,

Mathias, 32, maintained his innocence. "Taking into account how the affair has evolved and the huge media attention surrounding it, Mathias Pogba strongly insists he knows nothing about any extortion attempt against his brother, Paul Pogba," the statement read.

"It is clear that the difficulties the Pogba family are experiencing are the result of outside threats."

Two magistrates were last week appointed to lead an investigation into the claims.

## Barcelona reap benefits of strict financial measures

Barcelona have been handed a huge salary cap boost by La Liga, with their limit increasing from minus €144 million (minus £125 million) to €656.5 million.

The club were able to transform their economic situation with a series of bold financial moves, including cutting costs and selling 25 per cent of their domestic television rights. Real Madrid continue to lead with a cap of €683.4 million, down from €739 million.

## Sport Rugby union

# 'I have hard players, we won't roll over'

Steve Diamond will reward Worcester with off-licence stop if they win, but he'll be buying, writes

**Alex Lowe**

**B**y hook or by crook, Worcester Warriors have made it to the opening weekend of the season. The rebellious mood that was evident in some corners of the changing room last Thursday — when pay was late for the third month running and some of the squad were talking about refusing to play away to London Irish today unless the owners left — has changed to one of defiance.

Worcester have borrowed a kit van from a sponsor to take all the gear to London after theirs was reclaimed. Steve Diamond, the director of rugby, is believed to have forked out for the team bus. Young players have had to be rehoused after the academy house was repossessed.

Worcester's one pre-season game was cancelled because the squad were still waiting for their money and contact training was dialled back, reducing the risk of injury at a time when players' futures were uncertain.

They still are. The club are weighed down by a £6 million tax bill and face a winding-up court hearing on October 6. There has been bullish talk of new investors but there are no guarantees that the owners will make next month's payroll. It was little wonder that players were, at one stage, not in the right mind to play.

It was a fight or flight situation. One player, Kyle Hetherell, has asked to leave because he has been offered improved terms by a French club, believed to be La Rochelle, and a transfer fee will be negotiated. The rest have committed to fight. Diamond has made sure of that.

"Dimes laid the law down pretty early on," Matt Kvesic, the homegrown Worcester flanker, said. "He said we are going to ride this out and stay tight. We are not victims. We don't want to be feeling sorry for ourselves and thinking, 'Poor us, we've had a bit of a torrid time over the last few weeks.' We are rugby players, we will go out and do the job. That's what we do."

"We don't want to turn up for the first game of the Premiership season and just make the numbers up. If Irish are better than us on the day, then



Kvesic, the flanker, has a special affinity with Worcester, having risen through the academy and returned to Sixways in 2020 after stints with Gloucester and Exeter

fine. We are not going to just be there, roll over and have our bellies tickled. There is no point in going there if we don't think we can win.

"It's been pretty stressful. We have some frustration to let out. We have trained hard, we have got a lot more running in; maybe a little less contact but that is just a mentality thing, that is just an attitude thing and from what we have been through we have bucketloads of that."

Worcester will wear last year's kit because they cannot pay for the new one, which is reportedly sitting in a Belfast warehouse. Premiership Rugby approved a request for Warriors to play today without names on their backs so the jerseys can be reused.

Kvesic, as with Ollie Lawrence and Ted Hill, has a special affinity with Worcester, having come through the academy, broken into the first team and played for England. Kvesic met his wife in the city, he is now a father and returned to the club in 2020 after stints with Gloucester and Exeter

Chiefs. "Not once did I think about jacking it in," the 30-year-old said. We didn't get paid on time last month or the month before that. So I was semi-expecting that to happen. I am very focused on here. This is the club that put me in a position. I have experienced a couple of different clubs which I am really grateful for but for me this is my home.

"To see where we are now is upsetting. The support we've had over the last few weeks from guys like Adam Hewitt, a sponsor of the club, to the guys who turn up on the weekends shows how valuable the club is to the wider community."

Three-quarters of the Worcester squad live on each others' doorsteps in Diglis, a suburb of Worcester where the Severn meets the Birmingham canal. Cameron Neild shares a place with Curtis Langdon after the two forwards moved from Sale Sharks to Worcester in the summer. Lawrence now lives with Ollie Wynn, one of the academy players left homeless.

Captain today in the absence of Hill, Neild might have wondered what he had walked into but he knows Diamond from their days together with Sale Sharks. "In Dimes we trust," he said. "You've got to reach out to the younger players who are struggling financially and make sure that they're able to get through for the time being.

"People have done that and even housed other players for periods of time. It just shows how close we are as a group. When you cross the white line, you aren't thinking about what's coming into your bank at the end of month. You're thinking about the guy that's coming head-first into you and how you can put him back on his arse. That'll be the last thought going on in my mind and probably the rest of the lads."

Worcester finished tenth last season, ahead of Newcastle Falcons and Bath. They won the Premiership Cup on their last visit to London Irish, albeit in very different circumstances. On this occasion, Diamond recognises that Worcester are up against it and the only demand he has placed on the team is about their attitude.

"My job is to keep the pecker up, and that's what I intend on doing," Diamond said. "I have brought people in who I think can give Worcester that hard edge they need."

"We will be hard to beat. I think Wayne Barnes [the referee] is going to have a job on his hands, and that's why they have given us him, I think."

"I've decided that the most important thing that has to happen at Worcester is they have to get the rugby right."

"I don't know how they haven't got that right for 20 years. Many people with better credentials than I have never managed to get them above tenth or 11th place."

"So my job, if we are allowed and financed, is to do that. That is what I am concentrating on; keeping the group motivated, keeping the coaches motivated, the kit men, the chefs."

"To get a team out is pretty good. To perform well will be even better. If we can run them close or get a point then that is a great start for us. If we win, we might stop at the first off-lance on the way home."

Diamond would have to pay for the drinks himself, mind you, because the company credit card no longer works.

### London Irish v Worcester

Gallagher Premiership  
Kick-off: 3pm  
Community Stadium

## Sutcliffe hat-trick sends Leeds into semi-finals

**Catalans Dragons**

**10**

**Leeds Rhinos**

**20**

**Rugby league**  
**Ross Heppenstall**

Eyebrows were raised by Leeds Rhinos' decision to allow Liam Sutcliffe to leave at the end of this season and, on last night's evidence, the wisdom of the move remains open to scrutiny.

The homegrown centre scored a delightful hat-trick to send his club into

the Betfred Super League play-off semi-finals where they will face either defending champions St Helens or Wigan Warriors and where another win will carry them to the Grand Final.

Leeds-born Sutcliffe, 27, has spent his entire career at Headingley, making his debut in 2013, but will join Hull FC on a three-year deal next term after the Rhinos gave him permission to depart to free up space under their salary cap.

Yet Sutcliffe's three tries showed his value to Rohan Smith's team and encouraged hopes they can reach the final at Old Trafford in a fortnight.

Smith's side certainly will go into next week's semi-final overflowing with self-

belief after beating Catalans on their own turf.

The Rhinos are enjoying a genuine renaissance following the mid-season arrival of Smith, the Australian who has now presided over 12 wins in 17 games.

Catalans reached their first Grand Final last season but they were an ill-disciplined rabble throughout this match and Leeds took their chances.

"I thought we were very controlled," Smith, the head coach, said. "I had a lot of belief in the group and, once we got the ball rolling, we were hard to stop."

Sutcliffe scored twice inside the opening 40 minutes with Dean Whare touching down for Catalans, who had

Mitchell Pearce first sent to the sin-bin and then dismissed late on, with hooker Michael McIlroy also shown yellow.

Leeds kept their calm throughout and Sutcliffe completed his treble before the hosts had Gil Dudson sent off late on for a headbutt.

The home supporters threw plastic cups containing beer at the visiting players and Steve McNamara, the Catalans head coach, admitted that his side got what they deserved.

"We didn't play well," he said. "There was a huge amount of frustration from our players and that showed in the end. We've not been good enough the past five weeks; tonight wasn't meant to be."

### Pedersen shows finishing prowess to win third stage

**Cycling** Denmark's Mads Pedersen dominated a bunch sprint to win stage 19 of La Vuelta yesterday — his third victory at the race this year. The overall leader Remco Evenepoel, of Belgium, finished safely in the peloton to maintain his 2min 7sec advantage over Enric Mas, of Spain.

Pedersen showed his finishing prowess to win by a bike length at the end of the 138km stage that started and finished in Talavera de la Reina. He was moved into position by teammate Julien Bernard and once he hit the front never looked like being beaten. Britain's Fred Wright finished second with Belgium's Gianni Vermeersch in third place.

# Racing ready to honour its greatest friend

**Rob Wright**

Editor



The St Leger at Doncaster has been pushed back to tomorrow as a mark of respect to the Queen but it will now provide a first opportunity for all those in the sport that she loved to pay their respects.

The Queen's silks were only carried to victory once in the final classic of the Flat season, when Dunfermline emerged victorious in the Silver Jubilee year of 1977.

Trained by Major Dick Hern and ridden by Willie Carson, Dunfermline was bred by the Queen and proved the best horse that she owned during her 70-year reign.

Carson, who is now 79, was champion jockey five times and won 17 classics during an illustrious career. Yesterday he remembered Dunfermline, who he rode to victory in both the Oaks and St Leger. "Winning with Dunfermline in her Silver Jubilee



Dunfermline, ridden by Carson, was victorious in the St Leger in 1977

year was right up there among my career highlights," he said.

"It was one of those dreams that came true — not just for myself, but for Her Majesty."

Despite having won the Oaks, Dunfermline was not expected to best the unbeaten Alleged, the mount of Lester Piggott, in the St Leger and was sent off at 10-1 chance.

She proved too strong under a well-judged ride, though, inflicting what proved to be Alleged's only defeat.

"She was the most famous woman in the whole world," Carson said. "She was the patron of horse racing.

"I think she enjoyed breeding and seeing them develop and getting to the racecourse. That is what gave her most pleasure.

"She has been a great supporter of the turf. She has been around for 96 years and unfortunately nobody can last forever. Her death is a monumental loss."

Tributes will be paid to the Queen at Doncaster, with a minute's silence to be observed before what will now be a nine-race card, incorporating the best race

ces that were scheduled on both Friday and Saturday. Jockeys will wear black armbands and flags will fly at half-mast.

The Queen's purple, gold and scarlet silks will not be in evidence on Town Moor but she would doubtless have been a keen observer of this year's renewal of the St Leger, in which three fillies seek to emulate the great Dunfermline by beating the colts.

There was a spate of female victories towards the end of the 20th century, with the likes of Sun Princess, Oh So Sharp and User Friendly winning within a ten-year period. Taking on the colts has rather gone out of fashion in recent times, with only 19 trying since User Friendly won the race in 1992.



The Queen with Highclere in 1974, the horse that she had bred to success in the 1000 Guineas and French Oaks that year

## Leopardstown today

**Rob Wright**

3.45 Luxembourg 4.55 Homeless Songs

Going: soft  
Racing TV  
Draw no advantage

**3.45 Irish Champion Stakes**  
(Group I: £580,000; 1m 2f)

1 (3) -16 ALQUEMIE 70 (D) W Haggas (UK) 6-9-9 T Margaud  
2 (7) -14 BROOME 74 (B) G O'Brien 6-9-9 W M Lordan  
3 (5) -22 MISCHIFF 24 (D) J & T Gordon (UK) 5-9-9 C T Keane  
4 (8) -21 LUXTHERBORG 29 (D) P O'Brien 3-9-3 R L Moore  
5 (4) -19 ONESTO 31 (D) F Chapman 3-9-3 S Pouplier  
6 (1) -18 STONE AGE 35 (D) P O'Brien 3-9-3 J A Herniman  
7 (2) -11 VADENI 70 (D) J C Rouget 3-9-3 C Soumillon  
5-4 Vadeni, 100-30 Alquemie, 7-2 Luxtherborg, 6-1 Onesto, 6-1 Alquemie, 20-1 Stone Age, 25-1 Broome

Rob Wright's choice: Luxembourg did well to overcome a slow early pace at the Curragh

Danger: Vadeni

## 4.55 Matron Stakes

(Group I: £240,000; 1m) (11)

1 (3) -20 LIGHTS ON 88 (D) Sir N Stoute (UK) 5-6-7 C Soumillon  
2 (7) -125 PEARS GALORE 39 (D) P Twomey 5-6-7 W J Lee  
3 (8) -141 SAFFRON BEACH 39 (D) J Chapman-Ham (UK) 4-6-7 H Doyle  
4 (11) -116 AFFOGATO 62 (D) G M Lyons 3-9-2 C T Keane  
5 (4) -2593 ARGATHA 35 (D) P O'Brien 3-9-2 D McCarroll  
6 (5) -3446 CONCERT HALL 44 (D) G M Lyons 3-9-2 S Foley  
7 (2) -56-1 HOMELESS SONGS 111 (C) K D Wold 3-9-2 C Hayes  
8 (5) -2365 HONEY GIRL 23 (B) H De Bromhead 3-9-2  
9 (9) -6922 PALAMA RED 23 (B) G M Lyons 3-9-2 W Buck  
10 (10) -145 STAR GIRLS AALMAIL 62 (D) H De Bromhead 3-9-2 W M Lordan  
11 (D) -114 TEMERISMIR 39 (D) P O'Brien 3-9-2 R L Moore  
11-10 Homeless Songs, 9-4 Saffron Beach, 7-1 Tevezemir, 14-1 Palama Red, 16-1 Hallucinogen, 20-1 Star Girls, 16-1 Honey Girl, 25-1 Argatha

Wright choice: Homeless Songs has had a brace since an easy Irish 2,000 Guineas win; Dangers; Saffron Beach, Lights On

5-4 Vadeni, 100-30 Alquemie, 7-2 Luxtherborg, 6-1 Onesto, 6-1 Alquemie, 20-1 Stone Age, 25-1 Broome

Rob Wright's choice: Luxembourg did well to overcome a slow early pace at the Curragh

Danger: Vadeni

## Course specialists

Trainers P Twomey, 8 winners from 34 runners.  
25.5%; A O'Brien, 77 from 465, 16.6%. Jockey R L Moore, 30 winners from 96 rides, 31.2% S Crose, 29 from 165, 17.6%

## RESULTS

### American football

NFL

Los Angeles Rams 10 Buffalo 31.

### Cricket

**Asia Cup: Super Four**

Sri Lanka v Pakistan

Dubai (Sri Lanka won toss); Sri Lanka (2pts) beat Pakistan by five wickets

Pakistan (balls)

Mohammad Rizwan c Mendis b Liyanagamage 14 (14)

\*Babar Azam b P W H de Silva 30 (29)

Fahkar Zaman c P W H de Silva b Karunaratne 13 (18)

Iftikhar Ahmed b P W H de Silva 13 (17)

Kushal Shah c Nissanka

b D M de Silva 4 (8)

Mohammed Nawaz run out 26 (18)

Asif Ali b P W H de Silva 0 (1)

Hasan Ali c P W H de Silva

b Theekshana 0 (2)

Usman Qadir c Nissanka b Theekshana 3 (6)

Haris Rauf c M S de Silva

b Liyanagamage 1 (2)

Mohammad Hasnain not out 0 (1)

Extras (lb, 1 w, 15 nb) 17

Total (19.1 overs) 121

Fall of wickets 1-2, 2-2, 3-29, 4-80, 5-113,

Bowing Lokur 3-0-21-2; Raulf 3-0-19-2; H Ali 3-0-25-0; Nawaz 2-0-21-0; Qadir 4-0-34-1

Wicket-keepers 1-2, 2-2, 3-29, 4-80, 5-113,

Bowling Hasan 3-0-21-2; Raulf 3-0-19-2; H Ali 3-0-25-0; Nawaz 2-0-21-0; Qadir 4-0-34-1

Wicket-keepers 1-2, 2-2, 3-29, 4-80, 5-113,

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Bowling Lokur 3-0-

# Savvy Potter has mastered precise time to move up

**James Gheerbrant**



**W**hen I first met Graham Potter, in February 2018, the idea that he would, 4½ years later, beat Mauricio Pochettino to one of the most coveted coaching jobs in football would have seemed outlandish. Back then, Pochettino was in his pomp, one of the most critically acclaimed managers in the world, the admired architect of a Tottenham Hotspur team who had twice challenged for the Premier League title and just beaten Real Madrid. Potter, then managing the upstart Swedish club Ostersunds, was a man with a Portakabin office and a publicly available email address. Yet, gradually and by degrees of perception, their reputational trajectories have converged, perhaps even crossed.

Perhaps naively, I wondered whether Potter might wrestle with and perhaps even rebuff Chelsea's approach. But I was probably underestimating his savviness. At Ostersunds, he had not only had a deep emotional bond with his squad, but also with an unusually intimate community around the team: so much so that when he let slip in one interview how much his wife had sacrificed for his job, fans held up a banner at Ostersunds' next home game reading, "Thank you Rachel". You can imagine that it would have been a wrench to leave that behind.

But one of the defining themes of Potter's career so far, as well as his obviously transformative coaching ability and emotional intelligence, has been his sense of mobility and timing. He knew when he had taken Ostersunds as far as he could and he

may now have made the same calculation about Brighton & Hove Albion. So far, he has adroitly navigated a career in which his stock has only risen and he has made each move at the perfect moment. I wonder if it is this quality which has elevated him, and the likes of Erik ten Hag and Julian Nagelsmann, above the likes of Pochettino and Brendan Rodgers.

Once upon a time, the football manager was an imperial figure, a world-builder. The likes of Bill Shankly, Brian Clough, Johan Cruyff, Sir Alex Ferguson and Arsène Wenger made entire dynasties rise from the ground. But as managerial tenures become shorter — and it is now almost unheard of for a coach to remain in a post for more than a decade — this visionary quality is becoming less relevant. The modern manager must, first and foremost, be the pilot of their own career.

What Pochettino achieved at Tottenham was faintly miraculous and a little bit old-school. He built a great team out of young, unproven players, oversaw a sustained and sustainable leap from a strong but inconsistent club to an elite European team, and allowed Tottenham to consolidate that success into the construction of the finest stadium in England.

A temple, gleaming and magnificent, was built on the bones of his work. Pochettino had an intense mutual admiration with Ferguson, who is thought to have wanted him to get the United job, and you can see why: there's a certain kinship in their grand, pharaonic view of what it is to manage a football club.



Potter, right, beating Pochettino to one of the top jobs in European football, would have seemed outlandish 4½ years ago

But it has been fascinating to observe that Pochettino's remarkable job at Spurs has not earned him the preferment that one might have expected. He has been overlooked not only by Chelsea, but also for the Manchester United job, which went to Ten Hag. Part of Pochettino's problem is that he clung on too long. He strongly considered leaving Tottenham after the 2018-19 season, which culminated in them reaching the Champions League final, and in hindsight he probably should have done. Instead, he lingered for a further half-season and was sacked at the bottom of a full-blown, year-long slump, which damaged his standing.

Knowing when to walk away is one of the most important skills in modern football management, but also one of the most difficult. The decision can be clouded by a sense of loyalty, an emotional bond with players and fans, a desire to avenge a near miss or see a project through, even the seductive thought of forging a dynasty. Rodgers has probably missed the chance to leave Leicester City at the apex of his

bounce, so to speak. Had he left at the conclusion of the 2020-21 season, say, after two fifth-place finishes and an FA Cup, he would have been an obvious candidate for a big vacancy. Now he's stuck with a degraded squad and a slowly corroding reputation and might not get the chance to leave on his own terms.

Another interesting example is that of Diego Simeone, one of only two coaches in Europe's top five leagues, along with Freiburg's Christian Streich, to have been in the job for more than ten years. What Simeone has done at Atletico Madrid is arguably unparalleled in the recent history of European football: he has fashioned an entire club in his image. Five years ago, he was one of the hottest properties in coaching, on everyone's dream shortlist. But if he were to leave Atletico at the end of this season, and another of the big club jobs were to be open, would he be an obvious candidate? I'm not sure that he would: at this stage, he is so immersed in Atletico that it has become almost impossible to imagine him outside it.

The stratification of club football is a huge factor. When Ferguson and Wenger took over, football was more fluid: the ambition of slowly lifting a club to the highest heights and establishing them as a continental force was realistic. But the gaps these days are just too wide, the financial gravity too powerful. Simeone and Pochettino, at Atletico and Tottenham, were arguably the last two coaches outside the petroclubs to realise this leap before the continents broke apart for good. Now, for a Potter or a Ten Hag or a Nagelsmann, the incentive to stay where they are, to try to beat the superclubs rather than join them, is minuscule.

In the present landscape, not even a club with the intelligence of Brighton, the history and romance of Ajax, or the commercial cutting edge of Hoffenheim or RB Leipzig, can expect to tie down the next great manager for long. I don't fault Potter in the slightest for taking his chance, but I think Pochettino's drifting career is indicative of a sport where agility and timing are just as important as the vision to build something.

## Chelsea tell new coach his job is safe even if they miss top four

**Tom Roddy**

Chelsea's new owners have reassured Graham Potter that his job will not be in danger if the club miss out on this season's target of a top-four finish.

Potter, 47, replaced Thomas Tuchel as head coach this week after leaving Brighton & Hove Albion and signing an unprecedented five-year contract at Chelsea.

The Solihull-born coach is the first appointment to the Stamford Bridge dugout since the Todd Boehly-Clearlake Capital consortium bought

Chelsea from Roman Abramovich in May. The Times understands the club's new American owners aspire to be higher in the Premier League than fourth and want to see Chelsea reaching the latter stages of the Champions League, but falling short would not put Potter's job in jeopardy.

Senior sources at Stamford Bridge said the owners have a ten-year plan for Chelsea and are adamant Potter is the right man to lead the club in the long term, which means they are willing to allow for any early blips.

They believe that showing faith in the club's long-term plan will require

persevering through any early dips in form.

Tuchel's sacking on Wednesday, after the 1-0 defeat away to Dinamo Zagreb, was explained as a decision that had been made long beforehand and was not because of results on the pitch.

Potter's first match in charge will be the Champions League home game against RB Salzburg at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday, after

the match against Fulham was postponed due to the Queen's death.

Chelsea anticipate Potter's methods will begin to work in the second half of the season after he has had time to get together a squad that was largely assembled in an active transfer window. Chelsea spent £261 million, a club record.

Tuchel and Boehly, the new Chelsea chairman and interim sporting director, led a summer recruitment spree during

which Raheem Sterling, Kalidou Koulibaly, Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Wesley Fofana, Carney Chukwuemeka and Marc Cucurella joined the club. Potter had signed Cucurella for Brighton for £15 million from Getafe, before Chelsea paid £62 million this summer.

Chelsea are targeting a defensive midfielder during the January transfer window and may return for Edson Alvarez, the Ajax player they attempted to sign in the final days of the summer window. But they are likely to have a sporting director in place by then as the new owners complete a transformation in staff at Stamford Bridge.

**£360m**

Chelsea's transfer spending during Tuchel's year and a half in charge — more than any other Premier League club

# saturday review



**Hugo Rifkind**  
The verdict on  
Hillary and Chelsea  
Clinton's new show



7-DAY  
TV & RADIO  
GUIDE  
page 23

## Ian McEwan: is this his last novel?

'I've said as much as  
I know for now'

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books  
special

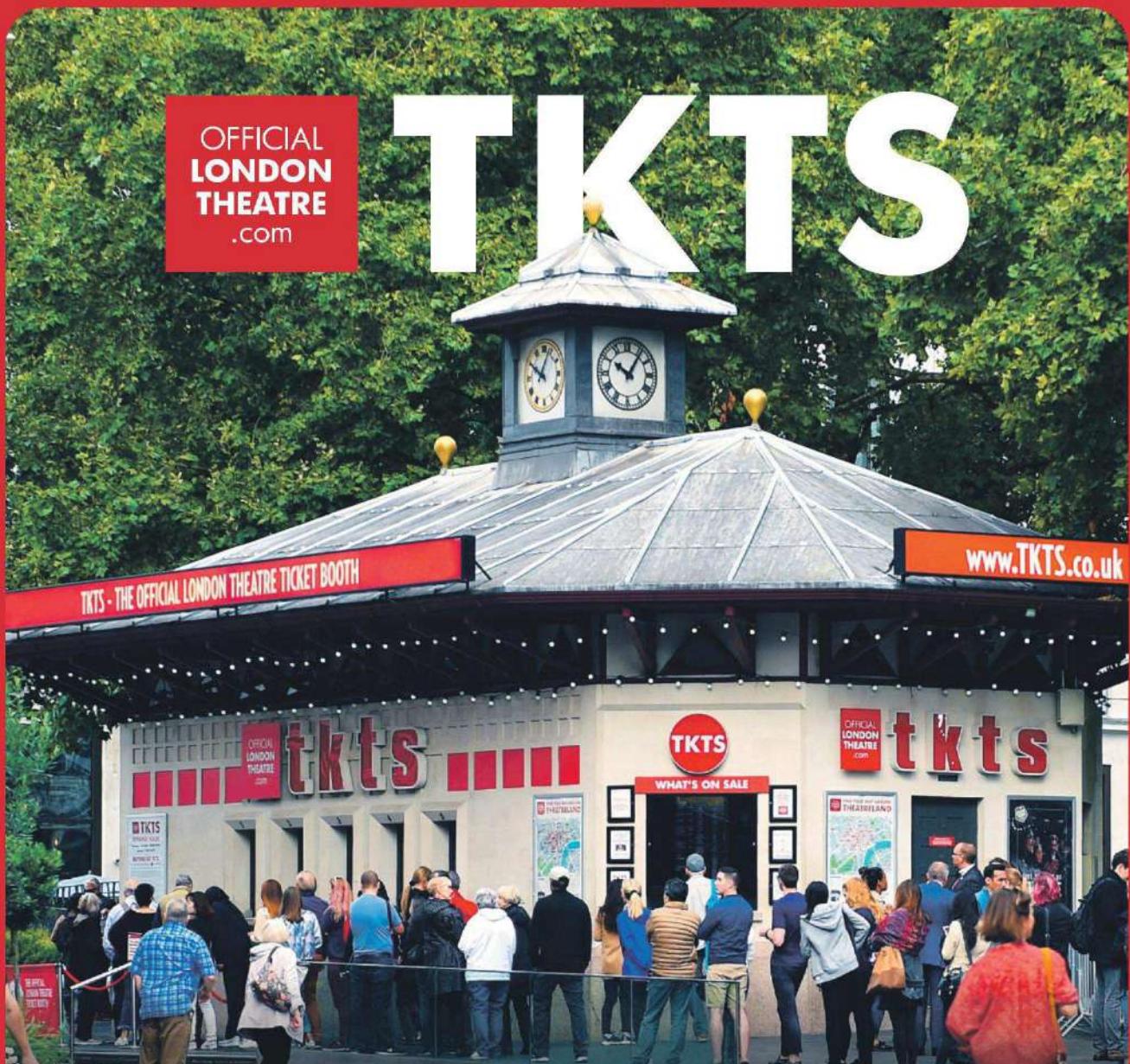


**Lionel Shriver  
on JK Rowling**

**Val McDermid on  
Agatha Christie**

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# showing this week

What the critics are watching and listening to

## Film

### Both Sides of the Blade

The French director Claire Denis completes a trilogy of top-tier Juliette Binoche movies with a deceptively knotty tale of middle-aged love gone awry. Binoche is the protagonist Sara, the host of a politically conscientious radio show who, as the movie begins, seems to have it all. However, cracks in her marriage soon appear and escalate when Sara randomly spots her ex-boyfriend François (Grégoire Colin). It's a biographical mystery that suggests the crimes of the past are never erased and the bourgeois façade of red wine, chit-chat and summer tans is no match for the primal drives that lurk within. *In cinemas and on Curzon Home Cinema from Sep 9*

Kevin Maher

## Television

### All Creatures Great and Small

This joyous reboot of the BBC series based on James Herriot's veterinary escapades in 1930s Yorkshire has been such a success that series three has earned that classic popular drama storyline: the wedding of two key characters. James and Helen's nuptials may come with the odd classic hitch (only a fool would trust Tristan with the rings), but there is comfortably little sign of the gentle escapism letting up despite army recruitment posters popping up across the Dales. Still, even Hitler would be hard pressed to ruffle a world where the kettle's always on, ailing cows tend to give birth to healthy heifers and even the grumpiest of farmers eventually pay their bills. *Channel 5, Thu Ben Dowell*

## Theatre

### The Color Purple

Alice Walker's novel gets a soulful makeover in the director Tinuke Craig's version of the show that enjoyed a run on Broadway a while ago. In this blues and gospeltinged co-production with the Curve in Leicester (which has just scored another success with its revival of *Billy Elliot the Musical*) Me'sha Bryan plays Celie, the young woman who has so many obstacles thrown in her way. Bree Smith takes the role of the flamboyant singer Shug Avery. *Birmingham Hippodrome (birminghamhippodrome.com) to Sep 17, then touring to Plymouth, Northampton, Salford, Cardiff, Southampton and Norwich*

Clive Davis

## Classical

### The Makropulos Affair

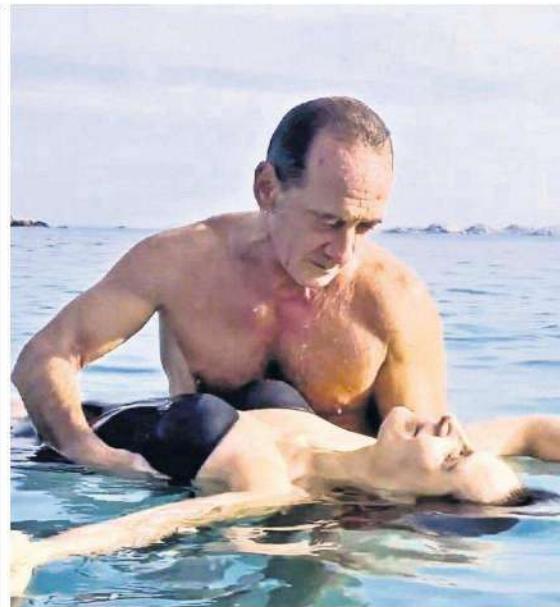
A thriller, a dark comedy, a tragedy of a woman who learns the hard way not to long for eternal life — Janacek's opera is all of these, with cracking good music as well. Olivia Fuchs's new staging has a cast that includes Nicky Spence and, as the mysterious Emilia Marty, Angeles Blancas Gulin. Fun fact: the conductor Tomas Hanus was born on a street in Brno where Janacek once lived. *Millennium Centre, Cardiff (wno.org.uk), from Sep 16*

Richard Morrison

## Visual art

### Norman Gilbert

The Glaswegian artist Norman Gilbert never wanted to take on a big house. He had worked happily enough



Vincent Lindon and Juliette Binoche in *Both Sides of the Blade*. Below: the United Ukrainian Ballet's *Giselle*

as a pigman while living in a caravan. His wife, Pat, a fellow artist, only managed to persuade him by dangling the "bait" of a studio with three massive windows. Here, Gilbert painted until his death in 2019 at the age of 93. This retrospective celebration of his work offers a dazzling kaleidoscope of colour and pattern. *Tramway, Glasgow (tramway.org), to Feb 5*

Laura Freeman

## Dance

### Giselle

The New York-based Russian choreographer Alexei Ratmansky stages his *Giselle* — the greatest jewel of the Romantic era — for the benefit of the 60 Ukrainian dancers in exile billed as the United Ukrainian Ballet. The Kyiv-born ballerina Katja Khaniukova and the Romanian Alina Cojocaru, who studied as a child in Kyiv, will appear as guest artists. All profits from ticket sales will go to the DEC Ukraine Appeal and the United Ukrainian Ballet Foundation. *Coliseum, London WC2 (londoncoliseum.org), from Sep 13-17*

Alex O'Connell

## Pop

### Don McLean: 50th Anniversary of American Pie

Whenever asked about the meaning behind *American Pie*, Don McLean quips: "It means I never have to work again." Actually it doesn't need to be spelt out. *American Pie* is an epic on the loss of innocence, taking in rock'n'roll's development from youthful adventure to countercultural force. The ever eccentric McLean plays all the folk-influenced favourites, from *Vincent* to *Castles in the Air*, in a delayed anniversary tour of the 1971 masterpiece that summed up the postwar American experience. *St David's, Cardiff, Sunday, Regent Theatre, Ipswich, Tuesday, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Wednesday, The Forum, Bath, Friday (donmclean.com)*

Will Hodgkinson



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Val McDermid on her passion for the queen of crime, Agatha Christie



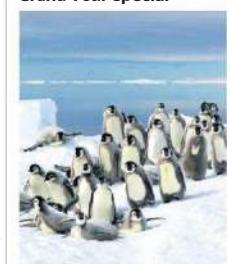
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Cover photograph  
Katie Wilson for The Times

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BRIDGE THEATRE

# cover story

# 'I feel emptied out, as if I've said as much as I know'

**The Booker-winning novelist Ian McEwan has woven multiple versions of himself into *Lessons*, a 500-page masterpiece.**

**Andrew Billen asks him how true to his life the story really is**

**I**an McEwan is a storyteller whose page-turners are punctuated by pauses in which we ponder matters greater than ourselves. In his latest novel, published next week, we briefly consider the theory of multiple worlds, which — improbably, McEwan admits — proposes that the universe “divides at every conceivable moment into an infinitude of invisible possibilities”. *Lessons*, you could say, is a 500-page exercise in multiversification. Its protagonist may be called Roland, but he is clearly Ian McEwan, just an Ian McEwan whom success has eluded.

We are in the successful version's news house in Bloomsbury (it is small enough to require a writing desk in his bedroom, but his other place is a Gloucestershire manor house). I ask whether at 74 it was slightly thrilling to have imagined a failed version of himself. Poor Roland, tennis coach and hotel pianist, barely gets beyond seeing an odd poem of his in print; not for him film adaptations, a Booker prize and five further nominations — although strangely McEwan has not received one this year, despite critics calling *Lessons* his best book in 20 years.

“Well,” he says, “it was a sort of multiple-worlds thing. I distributed parts of me. So literary success goes to Roland’s wife and she becomes Europe’s greatest novelist. I spread myself thin.”

Success came early to the real McEwan, his first short, macabre novels making his name by the early 1980s, although at the time you would have bet on his contemporaries, Martin Amis, Julian Barnes and Salman Rushdie, ending up the most read — then lost your money.

“It was like a handful of brothers,” he says, ignoring my suggestion of rivalry. “So many of the life-long friends I made — James Fenton,

**SLOW-BURNER** Keira Knightley in the 2007 film of *Atonement*. Right: Ian McEwan at his home in London



Craig Raine, Ian Hamilton, Seamus Heaney, Shena Mackay, Clive James — all were at the beginning of their careers and were sort of obscure. Publishing hardback fiction was a slightly regressive thing in the Seventies. Everyone else was writing journalism or plays.”

They were not each other’s best men, but Rushdie and he shared a double wedding party in Long Island in 1997, where McEwan married his second wife, Annalena McAfee, and Rushdie his third, Elizabeth West. It was eight years after the fatwa and McEwan does not recall his friend arriving with guards. As he understands it, Rushdie remains in hospital after his stabbing in New York last month.

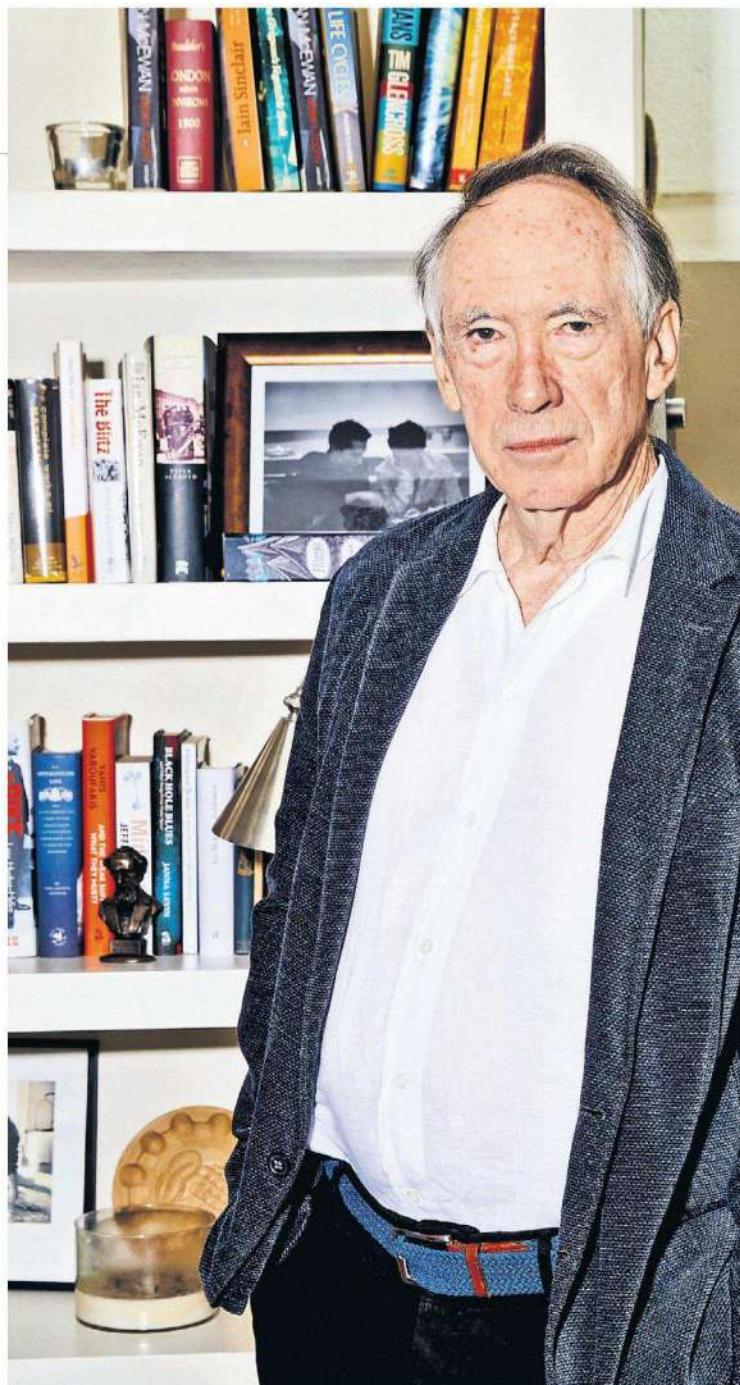
“I think especially in the States and in New York, he felt very relaxed. He’s done public events for years that are well advertised in advance. So this was a very nasty assault, vicious, and it’s fantastic for him to have survived it. He’s got colossal courage. He’ll come through.”

*Lessons* contains one Rushdie reference, woven into the political landscape of times that affect but do not necessarily determine our hero’s fate. A personal, almost random moment is more likely to do that.

For Roland there are two: his sexual initiation aged 14 at school at the straying hands of his music teacher, Miriam, and, later, desertion by his wife, Alissa.

Was he worried about having two women villains? “But there’s also Daphne [Roland’s second wife], who is exemplary, and various other women. So no. The point about Alissa, and a crucial scene for me when writing it, was when he meets her in Berlin and they go to an alley in the rain and she hands him a bound proof of her first novel and he takes it back to the hotel to read it, and to his dismay it’s a masterpiece.”

Does writing a masterpiece excuse an author’s private life? “I don’t have the answer to that question, but one of the most interesting constant conversations one has about literature is that a lot of very appalling people write won-



derful novels and beautiful poems. How do we square that? I don’t think we can square it. It’s there. It’s a fact.”

To forestall autobiographical misapprehensions, in his acknowledgments he writes that while he, like Roland, attended a state boarding school near Ipswich, he was never sexually assaulted; there was no piano teacher in the Miriam mould. No more is Alissa his first wife, Penny Allen

**I’ve never been a very biographical writer. I’ve always preferred invention**

(their marriage did fall apart nastily, but she did not desert their sons). Nor is saintly Daphne a re-rendering of McAfee (although, much earlier in life than Daphne, she too was unwell).

“I’ve never been a very biographical writer. I’ve always preferred invention and yet I’ve always admired those writers who are,” he says, citing Dickens, Bellow, Updike and Toni Morrison. “It’s a legitimate way to proceed and I thought, ‘I’m going to do it too.’”

A critic has described *Lessons* as being as messy as life itself. In fact, McEwan’s longest novel may be his most tightly structured. Halfway through writing, during the first lockdown, he charted a circle with Roland at the centre, places and characters on spokes heading outward and round the edge, numbered like a clock, the years.

Roland/Ian’s observations of public events are astute, but we read on for the personal crises. The sex scenes between Miriam and Roland, the first in the shadow of the Cuban missile crisis, are pubescently erotic, even joyful, but McEwan insists it is “a contradiction in terms that an adult can have a consensual sexual relationship with a 14-year-old”.

The aftermath is not happy: the transgression not only fouls up Roland’s academic work, but permanently rewires his brain. Roland’s future lovers complain about his sexual demands. “It is not only that he wants sex. He wants this union that’s up in the clouds, this dream.”

There was no comparable rewiring of the child McEwan except, perhaps, for this: Ian, like Roland, was largely brought up overseas with his mother and working-class Scottish soldier father. When Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal in 1956 and

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war followed, the eight-year-old McEwan was evacuated from Tripoli in Libya, where there had been pro-Nasser demonstrations. A blissful, unsupervised eight days in a desert camp ensued, a release from school and parental control. "It gave me a great sense of self-reliance, the thrill of adventure. I think part of the knock-on effect of that was that by the time I was in my early twenties I knew that I didn't want a job. I didn't want a career. I wanted to stay available for moments like that."

After university he therefore turned to freelancing, as a journalist and novelist — a choice similar to Roland's patchwork endeavours, but more lucrative. Privately, the two share enthusiasms: mountain hiking, Joseph Conrad ("I had to provide Roland a late education"), tennis (McEwan, still thin, is still playing; Roland retires fat at 50) — and psychedelic drugs.

"In the Seventies I would be with close friends and there would be meticulous planning: where and when we would come down, and always in unbelievably beautiful places — high mountain meadows, rivers to swim in, camps, log fires to sit around, great food ready."

This would be acid? "Well, mescaline. Far away, even in northwest America. And,

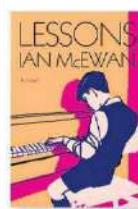
you know, we did it once in a year or once in two years. It was too big, too grand, to ever incorporate into daily life. We'd think, 'Well, phew' and think about it for 18 months." Does he ever yearn to once more ascend a mountain with more than walking gear? "I think when I'm 98 that might be the time."

Although the novel is populated by more imaginary people than real ones, Roland's parents pretty much are McEwan's. His father, Major David McEwan, a remote, bullying, occasionally violent man (to his wife), resembles Captain Robert Baines far more than John Dickens did Wilkins Micawber.

Had his father, like Roland's, ever boasted of cheating an army widow out of the full price of her second-hand lawnmower by surreptitiously fiddling with it so it would not start? "I'm afraid so. It was one of the most difficult things to write and I'm afraid it was true."

The novel faithfully describes his parents' abandonment of their first son, David, and his surprise appearance into the family in 2002 (after his father had died and his mother was too demented to understand). Born adulterously while Rose was still married to her first husband,

**NO CLOSURE** From top: Saoirse Ronan and Billy Howle in the 2017 film of *On Chesil Beach*; Emma Thompson in *The Children Act* (2017); Andrew Robertson and Charlotte Gainsbourg in *The Cement Garden* (1993)



Lessons is published on Tuesday at £20, Kindle £9.99 (Jonathan Cape)

THE SUNDAY TIMES TIMESRADIO  
CHELTENHAM  
Literature  
Festival

## Ian McEwan

talks about his new novel, *Lessons*, at The Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival on Saturday, October 8 [cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature](http://cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature)

## McEwan's greatest hits (so far...)

### First Love, Last Rites 1975

A collection of eight short stories, this was McEwan's first published literary work and in it he engaged with the tumultuous subjects of sex and adolescence. In *Homemade* and *Butterflies*, in particular, McEwan taps into the darkest human impulses.

### The Cement Garden 1978

McEwan's debut novel, about four siblings who set out to prevent the discovery of their parents' death, had him in a similarly transgressive mood. McEwan claimed that the grotesque subject matter that reveals itself towards the book's latter stages was inspired by the decrepit state of late-1970s London. This also partly accounts for the novel's masculine voice, fuelled by the sexual deviance of Jack.

W

e speed to the present and the end of the book. Alissa's writing is beginning to become unfashionable. A joke about trans-women lands badly.

A few years ago McEwan was similarly castigated for suggesting on air that Harvey Weinstein had the right to due legal progress before being jailed for sex crimes. Does he feel marginalised?

"Not particularly marginalised. There might be other reasons to feel marginalised, like being old, white, male, middle class, but I'm not bothered by that because our generation of writers had our time in the sun and I'm fine about that. That spread of opportunity feels absolutely rational to me, but I do share that sense that the public sector wish to apply well-intended rational measures to close wealth gaps, to spread opportunity and so on, has rather gone."

In the book Roland is described as being liberated of two obsessions by Trump's departure from the White House and Britain's from Europe in 2021. Had the author of the probably misjudged satire about a Brexit prime minister, *The Cockroach*, been similarly disburdened?

"No, I still feel depressed by it. Sad about it, no longer angry."

He writes of self-made hells, the torture machines we all build ourselves and climb inside. What were his? "I'm not sure I ever want to talk about them actually. Most people's self-made hells are very private matters." A good reason not to write *Lessons* as autobiography? "Well, I guess you'd just exclude it, wouldn't you? Just hop over those bits."

The book is called *Lessons*, but perhaps its only lesson is that life rarely supplies them. "I think they're very hard. All I can fall back on is that what's important is the examined life. It doesn't matter what you do and have done. You've got to think about it and you've got to address it, but that doesn't solve it."

"That's why the word I hate most in the language is 'closure'. Only in novels and movies do you get it. In life, you either forget about it or you just stitch it into the rest of the load you carry with you."

The writer of a highly examined life sounds a little spent.

"A writer friend read *Lessons* in proof and said, 'It certainly reads like *The Last Novel*. I very much hope it isn't, but that's how it reads.' I think there is some truth in that. There is something valedictory about writing a whole life. Now what do you do? Go back to the beginning or the middle? I felt when I finished that I'd given it absolutely everything. I still feel this to some extent, kind of emptied out, in a rather pleasant way, as if I've said as much as I know for now."

He assures himself he has some ideas he is thinking about. And I am sure he does. He is Ian McEwan.

### Nutshell 2016

An audacious novel presented from the point of view of a foetus, who ruminates on the world while supernaturally assimilating everything his mother experiences. *The Times* noted that it resembled a literary version of Stewie Griffin, the eccentric baby from *Family Guy*. It becomes clear that the narrator is caught up in a version of *Hamlet*, with the rottenness manifesting incrementally beyond the baby's control. Matthew Bowden

### Amsterdam 1998

The novel that won McEwan his long-awaited Booker prize, *Amsterdam* is polarising. Brought together through a mutual lover, Vernon and Clive — a newspaper editor and a composer — form a seemingly inane suicide pact before professional turmoil causes them both to descend into a state of scheming madness.

### Atonement 2001

Made into a celebrated film in 2007, *Atonement* has been described as "mahogany to the balsa wood of *Amsterdam*". McEwan constructs a tension-filled slow-burner culminating in a misjudged revelation the deep-seated consequences of which extend through the novel's Second World War section and out the other side.

### On Chesil Beach 2007

Considering McEwan is so often the proprietor of sexual indulgence, *On Chesil Beach* represents a diversion. It depicts a young, recently married couple who have remained chaste and are about to cast off the shackles of their virginity. McEwan's use of *in medias res* succinctly captures how their respective anticipation of the act differs as well as adding a retrospective poignancy to the novel's affecting ending.

### The Children Act 2014

Adam, 17, requires a blood transfusion to save his life, yet he and his Jehovah's Witness parents are opposed to this procedure on religious grounds. McEwan examines self-doubt and temptation in tandem, implying multiple generations are susceptible to its reach.

# interview

# Which sex you are isn't that important

**Lionel Shriver talks to Rachel Sylvester about liberals, JK Rowling and the cult of victimhood**

**L**ionel Shriver has spent the summer in New York, sweltering in a Brooklyn apartment with no air conditioning. Instead of escaping from her south London home to a villa in Tuscany, the novelist went on holiday to another hot, sticky city in the heatwave.

In her life as well as her work, Shriver is relentlessly contrarian. She goes to bed at 5am and eats only one meal a day: dinner, around midnight, often featuring "burn your face off" quantities of chilli peppers.

"It's not deliberate perversity," she says. "When you write for a living, and you don't have a lot of obligations pinning you to the conventional work day, you easily gravitate to whatever your natural biological clock is, and mine is a little wonky."

Shriver, a woman with a man's name, which she chose for herself at 15, has always wanted to be unpredictable. "From an early age I was never driven to fit in, but more to stand out. I've always found it peculiar, even among children, when they are consumed with joining and being regarded as the same as everyone else."

## From an early age I was never driven to fit in, but more to stand out

Her novels do tend to focus on disturbing issues. Her bestseller *We Need to Talk About Kevin*, which won the Orange prize in 2005, is about a mother coming to terms with her son committing mass murder. *Big Brother* is about morbid obesity and *So Much for That* describes death by cancer.

In her political writing, Shriver is equally determined to provoke. A Democrat, she is also a pro-Brexit, anti-woke warrior. She is an American who lives in Britain, but rails against the scale of immigration.

Her new book, *Abominations*, is a collection of her non-fiction. She writes in the introduction that she has chosen pieces that "brought hell and damnation down on my head". The title is deliberately combative, she says. "One of the most powerful, almost Biblical, words in the English language for something bad."

In her black vest and black-rimmed glasses, surrounded by books, Shriver looks severe when she joins the Zoom call, but, as we speak, there are flashes of humour along with an occasional bright white smile. "I do not seek to ruffle people's

feathers; that would be a weird goal to embrace," she tells me. "But I am accepting of ruffling feathers if it means observing something that I believe to be true, or articulating a position or a set of feelings that are going unexpressed."

It is clear that she loves challenging the assumptions of other liberals. "It's always more enjoyable to engage with people who are your close ideological bedfellows," she says. "I grew up in a very liberal household. I have some sympathy with liberal starting points, but then I can point out the contradictions, the hypocrisies, the practical difficulties, the complacency or the psychological naivety of liberal thought."

Shriver, 65, describes herself as a PK — "preacher's kid" — who reacted against her religious upbringing. Her father, Donald, was a pastor and academic, while her mother, Peggy, was a researcher for the Presbyterian Church. "I can certainly trace a rebelliousness and a natural instinct to challenge dogma back to my childhood," she says. That impulse has carried on into her politics. "The 'wokery' has all the characteristics of a religion so now the indoctrination taking place is more likely to be political. You're raising kids who are hysterical about climate change, who are super-sensitive about race and who are trying to decide which sex they are. If you want to rebel against parents like that, you join the Tory party."

Shriver far prefers writing novels to essays: "I consider my fiction much more important than my non-fiction." Yet she says fiction has become increasingly political, with novelists nervous of writing about subjects beyond their personal experience in case they are criticised for cultural appropriation.

"I personally refuse to obey all these rules and I wish more fiction writers were simply oblivious to the restrictions that are increasingly imposed by the political climate," she says. "I feel as if most of my colleagues in the literary world are becoming completely neurotic and seized up about what they're 'allowed' to write. This is a self-imposed prison."

Imagination is vital in literature, she insists. "I don't expect my readers to want to read about Lionel Shriver all day long. I don't want to read about Lionel Shriver all day long. My experience is limited. If I only write about myself, I'll be writing about the same thing over and over again... In the interests of fiction readers, we have to allow ourselves to explore a large terrain and a wide emotional palette. The problems with literary fiction in particular are



**OUTSPOKEN** Lionel Shriver has voiced her support for fellow writer JK Rowling

**THE TIMES** **TIMES RADIO**  
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**Lionel Shriver**  
is a speaker on the  
Queen Mary 2's Literature  
Festival at Sea sailing  
December 2022  
[www.thetimes.co.uk/  
travel/offers/](http://www.thetimes.co.uk/travel/offers/)

not that writers are too expansive, too presumptuous — they tend to be too myopically obsessed with themselves."

A few years ago Shriver was showered with abuse when she donned a sombrero at the end of a speech on cultural appropriation in solidarity with students who had been censured for wearing Mexican hats at a tequila party. "This may frustrate my detractors, but... I became much more widely known after that controversy. I got more out of it in a positive way than I suffered damage to my reputation."

She admits, though, that she avoids social media; she knows how unpleasant it can be. She is appalled by the hounding of JK Rowling over her comments on gender. The Harry Potter series author is, in her view "being persecuted" for what, to most people, looks like a "such a middle-of-the-road position". The irony, Shriver says, is that Rowling is "as woke as they come" on most issues. "She would agree with most of the people who are going for her jugular on pretty much everything else, so I think this is a good example of the left eating their own. This is a story about cannibalism and the cannibals have a taste for the meat that is most like their own flesh. It's a good example of the absolutist intolerance because you cannot differ with this constellation of views, even on one point. If you're outside the faithful on one point, they will go for you."

Shriver is "mystified" by the way in which the transgender debate has become so fraught, with death threats to writers and MPs. "The transgender thing just seems to make people completely crazy," she says. "I just don't think that what sex you are is that important. My sense of myself is not crucially female."

As a teenager Shriver changed her name from Margaret Ann to Lionel so as not to be eclipsed by her elder brother. "Women are supposed to be soft and nurturing and pliable and driven to please and looking out for others. Men are strong and determined, and goal driven and powerful. If you look at the stereotypes, anyone with

any self-respect would want to be a man. I reject the stereotypes... I'm all for chucking them and one of my biggest problems with the transgender movement is it's all about nailing them down."

The #MeToo movement ended up "reinforcing the image of women as victims who have no control over their fate and who have no sense of perspective," she suggests. "We started talking about not real rape and assault, but he wasn't very nice to me". The tail end of the movement made us look hysterical and a lot of men would have rationally concluded, 'OK, I just give up on the lot of them; it is not worth it to me to court real women. I'm going to stay home with my pornography'."

There is, Shriver suggests, a cult of victimhood that has culminated in the soap opera surrounding Harry and Meghan. "We seem to have enshrined the idea that the only way you get power is through weakness. The more miserable and abused and small and helpless you are, the more you get attention, the more you have nobility, the more we're going to admire you. So even in positions of enormous wealth and status and celebrity, you have people trying to portray themselves as beaten up and beset by all these terrible mental health problems. I mean, get a grip."

To her critics, this will be yet more evidence of Shriver's insensitivity, but she insists it is a mistake to promote weakness. "I'm big on resilience." She acknowledges that this is probably a response to the trauma she suffered when she was sexually assaulted some years ago. She will not go into details ("It was real, but I don't talk about that") yet chose not to define herself as a victim and says it was "definitely a contributing factor" in the evolution of her views.

"It's a richer and more exciting life to get on top of whatever has gone on top of you and beat it," she says. "Declare victory. The experience of strength and self-possession and agency over your own fate is much more enjoyable than feeling oppressed, small and manipulated by forces beyond your control."

**Abominations** by Lionel Shriver is published by Borough on Thursday at £20

# Hugo Rifkind on TV

## It's not her fault, but Hillary kinda sucks the zest out of things

**Gutsy**  
Apple TV+  
**Stuck**  
BBC2  
**Arena**  
BBC4

**I**t's such a shame about Hillary Clinton. Right? Sure, she's a feminist trailblazer and the world might be in a better state if she had been president. Yet imagine having a party. A normal one. In your living room. After the pubs close, say. Not one where you've been expecting to talk about global affairs or the state of American democracy. Just something boozy and a bit wild, where people want to talk too loudly and smoke naughty fags outside the back door. Shush, yes, I know you've just started an impromptu karaoke rendition of Abba's *Dancing Queen*, but isn't that somebody at the door? Oh look. It's Hillary Clinton. No Bill tonight, eh? Sure, come on in. Gosh, this is awkward. Just a herbal tea? Oh. Where has everybody gone?

It's not her fault. Probably. She just presents, in a way, a bit like William H Macy in *The Cooler*, or perhaps the energy vampire in *What We Do in the Shadows*, just kinda sucking the zest out of things. "Hey, kids, I'm fun!" she'll say, and it will be purest Dr Evil trying a robot dance. You know I'm right.

This is the problem with *Gutsy*, the new documentary series on Apple TV+ that she presents with Chelsea, her daughter. My Sunday counterpart Camilla Long confessed recently that she couldn't read "*Gutsy*" as anything other than "*Gusty*" and now I can't either, but Hillary and Chelsea are not natural gusters. The series is about trailblazing women, and the first episode is about comedians. It's called *Gutsy Women Have the Last Laugh*.

There are big names here, from Amy Schumer to Wanda Sykes on down. That's what's good about it. What's bad about it is how often it feels as though a pair of aliens have come down to Earth and said: "Tell me of this thing you call humour."

It's the televisual incarnation of somebody brightly saying, "That's so funny!" when they absolutely don't get the joke. At times, no kidding, it would be marginally less uncomfortable if it were fronted by David Miliband.

Chelsea, actually, is the more interesting of the two. She floats along behind, often silent, the obvious victim of a lifetime of never once being the main attraction. When she talks, though, it is always worthwhile. Her mother's comments are more often than not platitudinous — "It's about being a woman! Who is putting herself out there!" — but Chelsea has a stricken, thoughtful sadness to her.

She admits, at one point, that she finds comedy difficult, the legacy of seeing herself ridiculed as a child on every American's favourite, *Saturday Night Live*.



"A group of adults all sat in a room and decided this was a good idea," she says, gently, and it's quietly devastating.

Sometimes the generational divide between the two of them does threaten to become interesting. Chelsea is much more instinctively cancellly, for example, although it's worth remembering that she's in her forties now, and hardly the voice of youth.

The comedy, even from the stand-ups, is very safe. Schumer trots out her line about the patriarchy having left humanity with no cure for endometriosis but chewable Viagra. Laurie Kilmartin manages perhaps the only jokes as yet in existence about transgender women and Anne Frank (not at the same time) that are genuinely funny and can be safely laughed at by Hillary.

Oddly — or perhaps not oddly — the good bits are the most serious ones. At one point, in a French café, there's a fantastic discussion about clowning between the veteran clown professor Philippe Gaulier (not a woman, but he does have a gut) and the young American clown Natalie Palmides in which they dwell on the vital magic of things going excruciatingly wrong. It's just not clear that the Clintons serve much function by being there too.

Anyway, there are another seven episodes, featuring everybody from Kim Kardashian and Megan Thee Stallion to Dr Jane Goodall. Doubtless there will be guts and gags aplenty because you can't really go wrong with a roll call like that. Which, I suppose, just goes to show how easy it is to book a programme when everybody is



**GOING NOWHERE**  
Morgana Robinson and Dylan Moran in *Stuck*. Top: Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton in *Gutsy*



they are getting along just fine. No spoilers, but you have never before seen two people have so much fun taking off all of their clothes and going to a deli.

**Finally, just to feel clever, I made myself watch *Arena*: James Joyce's *Ulysses*. And you know what? It totally worked. The point of these programmes, I always reckon, is to provide you with ample bullshitting material without having to do anything so gauche as reading a book. So, lots here to file away.**

"Well, it's probably the first Jewish novel," I shall henceforth say, channelling Howard Jacobson, before musing on exile, ancestral vagrancy and the long pedigree of Irish antisemitism. Should I eat kidneys, I shall share Salman Rushdie's delight in Joyce's description of them as having the "fine tang of faintly scented urine".

I'm not normally a fan of the idea of literature as veiled autobiography, but you cannot deny (I shall assert) that Molly Bloom is a thinly veiled Nora Barnacle. (*Shades of Stuck* in that relationship, perhaps? Or maybe I just think that because of Dylan Moran.) Indeed, I might add, the fruity bits of the book are but a shadow of his completely filthy letters to her, including that one with the line about what she did to his "ballocks" and that thing about where she put her finger.

Speaking of which, I may never again swim from a domestic beach without thinking of "the scrotumtightening sea". Likewise, Paul Muldoon's observation that it was Joyce who taught us that a novel could be about anything will not be wasted. Although that, I suppose, I knew already. The mundane, heightened to the heroic.

Beyond all that, there was something delightful in learning about Joyce's autho-

**Chelsea is more interesting. She has a stricken, thoughtful sadness to her**

rical life hacks. Penning *Ulysses* largely in Trieste, Zurich and Paris, Joyce had to write about a man walking around Dublin without getting to walk around Dublin. For this he relied, apart from his memory, on *Thom's Directory*, a list of streets. He also pillaged it for suitable Jewish names. He also, once the book was already at the proof stage, kept on cramming stuff in.

"Most writers are involved in cutting," Muldoon pointed out, making this particular over-writer feel somewhat seen. "It's all about accrual," he said. "Throwing something else into the pot. And, of course, he knows so much. Any allusion you think he might be entertaining, he probably is."

In other words, the guy must have watched a lot of documentaries like this one. Actually I'm pretty sure I did read *Ulysses* as a teenager, but I now feel I needn't have done. So, bravo.

The only thing I'm still not so great on is the manner and extent to which it echoes Homer's *Odyssey*. Although that just involves watching a Kirk Douglas film, and then I'm in the clear.

# books

# Val McDermid: how Agatha Christie

**The crime novelist shares her passion for Agatha Christie as 12 new Miss Marple stories are published**

You always remember the first time, they say. When I was a child, my parents liked to go dancing on a Friday night. So I had an unvarying Friday routine. Run home from school, cross the road to the library, choose two books, then hurry to the stop where I'd catch the bus



Val McDermid's publisher was warned against using the title "the living Queen of Crime" to describe her by the Agatha Christie estate. McDermid is a contributor to *Marple: Twelve New Stories*

for my grandparents' village eight miles along the coast.

Invariably, I'd have read my two novels before it was time to head back home on Saturday afternoon. And that's how Agatha Christie claimed me for a life of crime.

The only books in their miners' row apartment were the Bible and Agatha Christie's *The Murder at the Vicarage*. I don't know why they had it; I can only assume that a visitor left it behind, for my grandparents were not readers.

It was love at first read. I was entranced by the sheer cleverness of it. It had nothing to do with the world I inhabited — Scottish mining villages bore virtually no resemblance to St Mary Mead in the home counties.

That didn't matter; when we're children, if a story is engaging, we take everything else on trust. Tigers do come to tea, wardrobes do contain worlds where it's always winter and never Christmas, and there is such a thing as a Gruffalo.

And yet there was something about Miss Jane Marple that did resonate with me. I spent a lot of time in the school holidays with my grandparents and when I wasn't roaming the woods or the beach and the caves with a gaggle of small children, I was off on mystery tours and bus trips with my gran and her pals. They were always full of gossip and laughter and song. The idea of an elderly woman who had her pulse on the vagaries of village life didn't seem so strange to me.

And so whenever I ran out of library books, I returned to the vicarage. On an inside page at the front of the book I'd found a list of other titles Agatha Christie had written. It filled me with the same sort of delight I'd already discovered with the *Chalet School* books by EM Brent-Dyer — there were lots of them.

There was only one problem. These were classified as adult books, even

## It was love at first read. I was entranced by the sheer cleverness of it

though we now know, thanks to linguistic analysts, that Christie's prose and grammatical style can be understood by anyone with a reading age of nine. I suppose someone who had never heard children play and was unfamiliar with cries of "I've killed you, you're dead" considered murder an unsuitable subject for tender young minds.

Thus they were in the adult library, inaccessible from the children's room.

But I was undaunted. I was already forming a plot to thwart the rules. I stole two of my mother's library tickets and presented myself at the front counter with a piteous expression and a pathetic voice. "I've got a book for my mum. She's" (catch in my voice) "not well."

It worked. Not once, but for five years until I qualified for my own adult tickets at age 14.

The Central Library in Kirkcaldy had a formidable stock of crime fiction. I gorged on the four queens of crime — Christie, Sayers, Marsh, Allingham — and many others besides. But I always returned to Christie, and in particular to Miss Marple.



**SHE DUNNIT** Agatha Christie reading *The Times* in 1949. Above right, from top: David Horovitch, Ian Brimble and Joan Hickson in *Miss Marple* in 1986; David Suchet and Hugh Fraser in *Poirot* in 1992

The way she drew analogies between the behaviour of ordinary people and the motives of murderers seemed to me to make much more human sense than Poirot's little grey cells.

Looking back, 37 novels of my own later, I understand that it was a marvellous piece of serendipity that *The Murder at the Vicarage* was my introduction to Agatha Christie. There are a dozen or so of her novels that show her at the peak of her powers and Miss Marple's debut is among them. One of the reasons I was taken captive by *The Murder at the Vicarage* is the standard of craftsmanship it demonstrates. I didn't recognise this as a child, but I can see now what a marvel of structure it is. There is the overarching story of the murderer himself. Who killed Colonel Protheroe? How was it done? And which of the several motives that emerge was the crucial one that led to murder?

Yet nesting beneath that are a handful of subplots. Each has a set-up, development

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**Murder mystery**

An immersive murder mystery evening, *Murder in the Courthouse*, celebrating Agatha Christie is part of the free Lit Crawl on Saturday October 8 [cheltenhamfestivals.com/lit-free-events](http://cheltenhamfestivals.com/lit-free-events)

# claimed me for a life of crime



it almost feels as if her subplots grew out of her understanding of those compact and satisfying nuggets of narrative.

She said that plots came to her suddenly, often when she was washing the dishes or out walking, "when suddenly a splendid idea pops into your head". Often, it was nothing more than an ingenious idea for a murder method. Then she would work out whodunit, why and how.

Only then would she invent the rest of the cast of characters, plant her clues and strew her red herrings. And then, "There is no agony like it. You sit in a room, biting pencils, looking at a typewriter, walking about, or casting yourself down on a sofa, feeling you want to cry your head off."

Given the volume of her output — 75 crime novels (I think!) and dozens of short stories — her success rate is remarkable. *And Then There Were None* has sold more copies than any other crime novel in history. *The Mousetrap* is the longest running play in the world. *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, *Murder on the Orient Express* and *The ABC Murders* still confound new generations of readers with their unforeseen twists. She invented the psychopathic serial killer in *4.50 from Paddington*. She gave us permission to experiment and because she did not always succeed in what she attempted, she gave us permission to fail.

So she reels us in and holds us fast. Her novels are short; we can easily read one in a day. She seems to display the natural storyteller's gift for shaping a narrative, but she honed that skill in the early years of her career on magazine short stories. She produced dozens of these, usually to a tight deadline. When it came to writing novels,

When I was invited to step into the little old lady shoes of Jane Marple, my first reaction was to run for the hills. The voice in my left ear said, "What hubris!" But the voice in my right ear said, "How better to pay tribute to the instigator of your own career?"

I thought about it for a few days, wondering whether I could pull it off and, if so, how best to approach it. Should I send Miss Marple in a time machine and tip her out in 2022? Should I send her somewhere exotic, as her creator did in *A Caribbean Mystery*? Should I parachute her into a completely different social milieu, perhaps helping Miss Hartnell drive a bus in the General Strike? Or could I send her to Germany to possibly thwart an assassination attempt on Churchill?

Deep down, I knew the answer. If I was going to do this, the only possible tribute was to take her back to where it all began — the vicarage at St Mary Mead.

And so the seed for *The Second Murder at the Vicarage* was planted.

I wanted to use characters from the original story as far as possible, so we meet again the vicar, Leonard Clements, his irrepressible wife, Griselda, and his nephew Dennis. There is a new addition in the vicarage — the Clements' toddler son David, who thankfully is too young to have a speaking part.

**And Then There Were None** has sold more copies than any other crime novel in history

Of course, there are the four "old cats" — the elderly ladies of the village. Miss Hartnell ("who was much feared by the poor"), Mrs Price Ridley, Miss Wetherby and Miss Marple. Inspector Slack returns to reprise his role as the impatient detective. And Mary's execrable cooking gets a mention too. But this time, the murder is closer to home...

Once I'd decided to go for it, I had the best time. I've tried to ventriloquise the vicar and to allow Miss Marple to shine as she deserves to. It was the least I could do after all those Friday nights she saved me from boredom and taught me how to get away with murder.

Val McDermid's novel *1989* (£20, Little, Brown) is out now. *Marple: Twelve New Stories* is published in hardback on September 15 (£20, HarperCollins).

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# my culture fix

The novelist lets us into her cultural life

## Cressida Cowell



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**Cressida Cowell**  
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### My favourite author or book

*Middlemarch* by George Eliot. I reread this book in stressful times for the calm wisdom of Eliot's voice. This is a book that has everything — a wide cast of characters to fall in love with, and themes that are still relevant for women, and for all of us, today. The scene where Dorothea's goodness causes Rosamond to act out of character and perform an unselfish act sends shivers down my spine every time I read it.

### The book I'm reading

*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus, a heartwarming, intelligent and very funny book with an inspirational lead female character facing many of the same problems in the 1960s that Dorothea Brooke faced in 1829. Which leads me neatly to my second book, *The Authority Gap: Why Women Are Still Taken Less Seriously Than Men* by Mary-Ann Sieghart. Informative, illuminating, with practical tips (I love a practical tip) about what can be done about remedying the current situation. And *The Anglo-Saxons: A History of the Beginnings of England* — lovely, original storytelling history by Marc Morris.

### The book I wish I had written

*Middlemarch*.

### The book I couldn't finish

Lots — I don't think a book should be a chore, so if I'm not enjoying a book I set it aside.

### The book I'm ashamed I haven't read

Proust's *Remembrance of Things Past*. I'm not ashamed, I just haven't got round to it yet.

### My favourite film

*Some Like It Hot* — what a wonderful script, every word a joy, sublime acting by the entire cast. I'm a Type O.

### My favourite play

Ever! I will never forget that performance of *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby* at the Aldwych in 1980. Or the mystery cycles — you went on three consecutive nights and it was spine-tinglingly good. With a play it's about the whole circumstances in which you watch it. When I booked to see *Matilda* for my husband's birthday I had to book nearly a year ahead for front row seats for the whole family, and he was cross for the entire year because he said it was a present for me, not for him. Five minutes into the performance, he turned to me and said: "This is wonderful." By the interval he was saying it was the best birthday he'd ever had. The *Hamilton* songs had made their way across the Atlantic some time before the musical itself arrived in London, so the children had been singing them around the house



**Which Way Anywhere**  
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Children's on Thursday  
at £12.99. Cowell is at  
the Bath Children's  
Literature Festival on  
September 24;  
[bathfestivals.org.uk](http://bathfestivals.org.uk)



**DIVE IN** Marilyn Monroe  
and Tony Curtis in  
*Some Like It Hot*. Top:  
*Landscape with the Fall  
of Icarus*. Below: Greta  
Gerwig's film of Little  
Women. Below right:  
Robert Smith of the Cure

for a good year or so before we watched the performance live, and that gave the final experience an extra resonance.

### My favourite TV series

*Fleabag*, season two.

### My favourite piece of music

Nat King Cole's *Nature Boy*. "The greatest thing/ You'll ever learn/ Is just to love/ And be loved in return..."

### The last movie that made me cry

I was just rewatching the stellar 2019 Greta Gerwig adaptation of *Little Women*, and I don't know what it is about this movie, whether it's to do with its treatment of time and flashbacks, or if it's the music, or the script, but somehow I start crying about a quarter of the way in and don't stop until the end.

### The lyric I wish I'd written

"You walked into the party like you were walking onto a yacht/ Your hat strategically dipped below one eye/ Your scarf it was apricot/ You had one eye in the mirror, as you watched yourself gavotte/ And all the girls dreamed that they'd be your partner/ They'd be your partner and/ You're so vain/ You probably think this song is about you..." Genius. *You're So Vain* by Carly Simon. A truly magnificent revenge song.

### The song that saved me

Well, here's the thing: I saved myself. Every song and poem and book that I write plays a part in saving me, so I would have to choose *Thank You for the Music* by Abba. A song that brings with it so many layers of associations, nostalgic

and joyful and thankful all at the same time. It reminds me of being young, and of what I am doing right now, and, for goodness' sake, "without a song or a dance, what are we?/ So, I say thank you for the music," for giving it to me."

### The instrument I played

The violin. I was so bad at it that every year my violin teacher would say: "Now, Cressida, I don't think you are quite up to the standard of grade one yet."

### The instrument I wish I'd learnt

The piano. In fact, despite the above, I still think that one day I am going to have the time to learn how to play it.

### The music that cheers me up

Abba, Wham!, the Cure. Anything that I listened to in my childhood.

### If I could own one painting it would be...

*Landscape with the Fall of Icarus*, which is possibly not by Pieter Bruegel the Elder (and I even love that bit about it). I love painting that tells a story, and this absolutely fascinated me as a child. You search the skies in vain for Icarus, only to finally spot his tiny, frantically flailing legs as he falls into the beautifully turquoise Mediterranean sea in a stunning landscape where people are ploughing and carrying on with their lives oblivious to Icarus's minuscule human drama. How moving is that?

### The place I feel happiest

By the sea or in my garden.

### My guiltiest cultural pleasure

I don't really feel guilty about any cultural pleasures — but I guess other people may feel I ought to feel very guilty about my love of *Mamma Mia!*, *The Devil Wears Prada*, *Titanic* or any of the many television programmes I watch with my children.



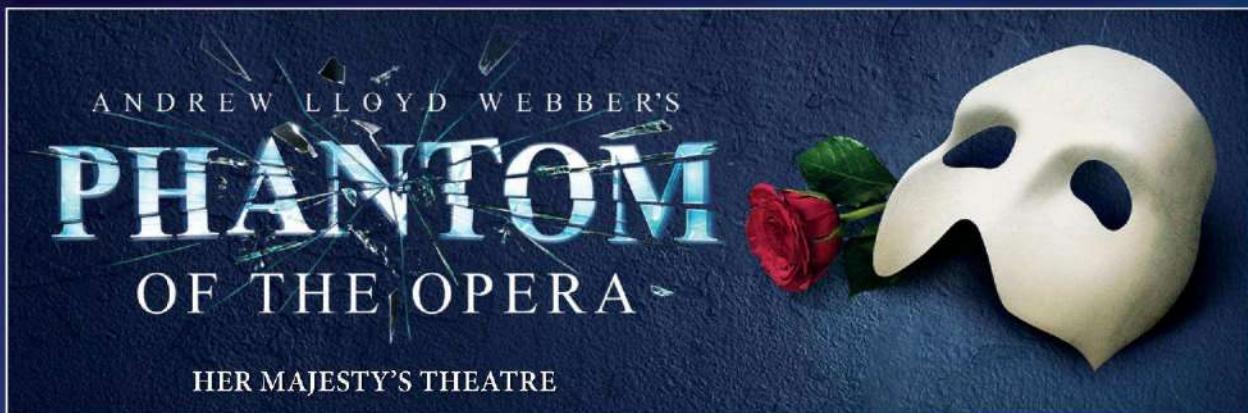
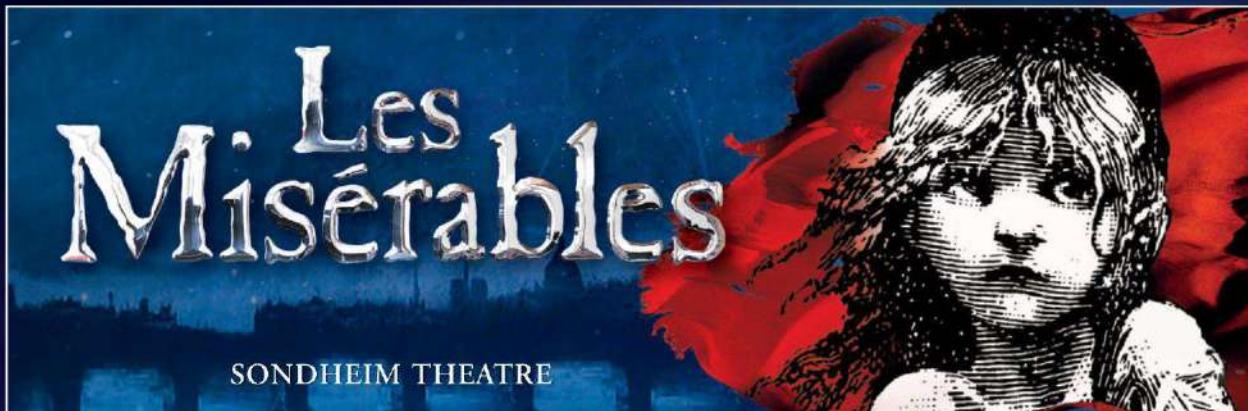
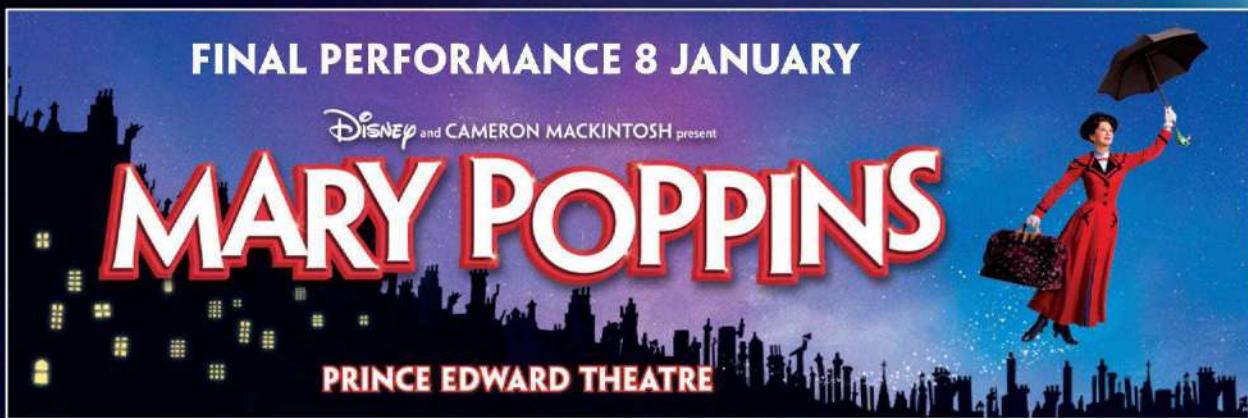
### OVERRATED

No one is overrated if their work is being enjoyed by other people. Not keen on any work that celebrates violence, however, and sadly that covers quite a lot of stuff.

### UNDERRATED

Most work by women is underrated.

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# books

## Diaghilev: the man who sexed up ballet

### Book of the week

**The brash, uncouth Russian impresario's daring experiments electrified the world of dance. Review by Debra Craine**

It has gone down in history as the most scandalous night at the ballet. May 29, 1913, at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris — the Ballets Russes in the first performance of *The Rite of Spring*. Vaslav Nijinsky's savage choreography and Igor Stravinsky's aggressively cacophonous score pushed the well-heeled audience to the limit of their tolerance. The performance was disrupted by catcalls, scornful claps, rude hisses and fist fights in the stalls (supposedly) and there were even reports (discredited) that the police had to be called to restore order. Whatever the truth of it, a scandal was exactly what Serge Diaghilev had wanted.

The Russian impresario, who had founded the Ballets Russes in Paris four years earlier, was an unabashed showman not above fuelling controversy to sell tickets. He was also an artistic dictator and a homosexual predator who would have been cancelled if he were alive today. Not the best character reference for one of the greatest names in classical ballet.

Yet, as Rupert Christiansen tells us in his fine new history, *Diaghilev's Empire*, the man presided over the most extraordinary group of talent yet assembled in a single dance company. Its impact was revolutionary. Diaghilev's troupe of expat Russians was a showcase for novelty, innovation and artistic experimentation in dance, music and visual art. It thrilled audiences (especially in London, where it had a significant power base), its galvanising modernist aesthetic sparked an international ballet boom and the exotic exuberance of some of its Russian productions set fashion trends in the streets of Europe's capitals.

Who was Diaghilev? Born 150 years ago, he was a brash

young man from the provinces studying law in St Petersburg when he fell in with a group of intellectuals who loved nothing more than to debate the future of art. "He was a puzzle, uncouth and rather too rawly Russian in style for these westernised Petersburgers," Christiansen writes. Diaghilev's look was odd and distinctive, "his square head being too big for his body and a striking badger-like patch of white streaking his thick black hair".

He is, of course, the star of this immensely readable and exhaustively researched exploration of a phenomenon that gripped the world for 20 years until Diaghilev's death in Venice in 1929 at the age of 57. Most delightful of all are the vivid portraits Christiansen paints of the dramatis personae, starting with Diaghilev and his succession of temperamental Ballets Russes lovers, all of whose careers he promoted — as choreographer or dancer — until, inevitably, fractiously, he fell out with them.

There was Nijinsky, who burnt bright for a short while, then descended into madness; Léonide Massine, who, as Christiansen tells us, recalled that his sexual encounters with Diaghilev were "like being in the embrace of a nice fat old lady"; Anton Dolin, who told an interviewer that Diaghilev's "requirements were straightforward, rather adolescent and did not involve any form of penetrative intercourse"; and Serge Lifar, whom Christiansen describes as "manipulative, self-seeking and self-dramatising without being noticeably intelligent".

Whatever his faults as a man, Diaghilev left an unparalleled legacy. The choreographers he commissioned were among the most significant of the 20th century — Massine, Mikhail Fokine, Bronislava Nijinska, George Balanchine. Among the artists who designed sets and costumes for his productions were Alexandre Benois, Léon Bakst, Natalia Goncharova, Pablo Picasso, André Derain, Georges Braque, Henri Matisse, Joan Miró, Salvador Dalí and Giorgio de Chirico. The composers who wrote music for Diaghilev included Serge Prokofiev, Maurice Ravel, Erik Satie and — most famously — Stravinsky. And the re-



**Diaghilev's Empire**  
How the Ballets Russes Enthralled the World  
by Rupert Christiansen

Faber, 374pp; £25



**MAGIC IN MOTION**  
Alexandra Danilova and Léonide Massine in *La Boutique Fantasque*. Left: 1910-II Ballets Russes programme covers

sulting ballets? From *Schéhérazade*, *Le Spectre de la rose* and *The Firebird* to *The Rite of Spring*, *Petrushka*, *L'après-midi d'un faune*, *Pulcinella*, *Les Noces*, *The Prodigal Son* and *Apollo*, the list is breathtaking.

So too is the list of reasons why the company should never have worked in the first place. Diaghilev was a complex and difficult man who risked everything in the pursuit of new ballets, but never worried about where the money was coming from. He probably devoted far too much time and energy to wooing "susceptible wealthy ladies who could be charmed to sign cheques over a bibulous lunch" (although for a few years even the newspaper magnate Lord Rothermere "coughed up"). Not until the itinerant company found a home and patronage in Monte Carlo in the 1920s did it enjoy any degree of financial stability.

Dance wasn't even Diaghilev's first love — visual art and opera were the original inspirations for him to mount seasons in Paris, beginning in 1906. "He had no creative gift of his own," writes Christiansen, the dance critic of *The Spectator*. "The ideas were harvested largely from others." His genius, and there is no denying that label, "was simply practical: to spot and gather the necessary talents, to render them effective and to get results".

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Yet it was anything but. Money was a constant headache, temper tantrums even more so.

Always strapped for cash, Diaghilev was infamous for not paying his dancers; when he finally settled two years of back pay for his star ballerina Tamara Karsavina, he immediately asked her for a loan of £400.

Behind the scenes the Ballets Russes seems to have been a hotbed of vicious backstabbing, bitter rivalries, out-of-control egos and sexual intrigue. Indeed, sex was a large part of its appeal in performance. As Christiansen points out: "The Ballets Russes adumbrated a new form of sensuality, challenging conventional demarcations of masculinity and

**The Ballets Russes was a hotbed of vicious backstabbing and bitter rivalries**

femininity as well as fostering a distinctly homosexual subculture in its audience."

He also presents us with a survey of what happened after Diaghilev's death when his company imploded and rival Ballets Russes outfits toured Europe and North America, further fostering the burgeoning dance culture among mainstream audiences. Many Ballets Russes dancers and choreographers went on to found companies and schools around the world. Fokine and Massine had successful careers as international choreographers; Dolin co-



# The price of being Putin's enemy

**After years in prison, the exiled oligarch lays bare the rot of Russia's 'neo-feudal' state, says Marc Bennetts**

**A**fter a decade in brutal Russian prisons, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, once Russia's richest man, could have been forgiven for spending what remained of his vast fortune on a life of luxury. Instead he has pumped money into opposition groups and independent media in a bid to topple President Putin, his arch nemesis.

An oil oligarch whose fortune was amassed during the economic chaos of the late 1980s and 1990s, Khodorkovsky angered Vladimir Putin by funding a pro-democracy movement and criticising government corruption, including during a testy televised confrontation. He was arrested in 2003 by armed state-security officers who stormed on to his private jet as it was refuelling in Siberia. He was charged with tax evasion and sentenced to eight years in prison.

There is debate about whether there were any grounds for the allegations, yet Khodorkovsky's arrest was blatantly political and proof that Putin rules by the principle: "For my friends, everything; for my enemies, the law." Khodorkovsky's oil company, Yukos, was soon broken up and its assets were handed over to Igor Sechin, one of Putin's cronies.

In 2011, shortly before he was due to be released, Khodorkovsky was convicted on fresh charges that extended his sentence by a further six years. The Kremlin wasn't even bothering to pretend by this stage that his incarceration wasn't politically motivated: the new case against him was barely distinguishable from the original charges. "In what dusty cellars did they dig up the venomous Stalinist spider who wrote this gibberish?" Khodorkovsky raged in court.

Back then, however, the Kremlin still had some lingering regard for its image in the West. Before the 2014 Winter Olympics, hosted by Russia, Putin unexpectedly pardoned Khodorkovsky, as well as members of the Pussy Riot feminist art collective, in a bid to stop the event being marred by protests. The next day Khodorkovsky boarded a plane to Europe. He has been in exile ever since.

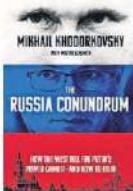
Now, after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Khodorkovsky has published a book with the intriguing title *The Russia Conundrum: How the West Fell for Putin's Power Gambit — and How to Fix It*. It's an eye-catching claim, if nothing else. The book is an occasionally awkward blend of biography, prison memoir and political analysis.

It covers Khodorkovsky's early days as a member of Komsomol — the Communist Youth League — and his path to riches during a period of tumultuous economic and social change. "Our compass is profit. Our idol is the financial majesty, capital," Khodorkovsky declared at the time. The financial schemes involved were murky and exploited legal loopholes, but Khodorkovsky has always denied that he did anything illegal.

He details his life in prison camp IK14/10 in the Chita region of Siberia, where winter temperatures can fall as low as minus 45C. "Our prison barracks were built next to the



RATTLED CAGES Mikhail Khodorkovsky in a Moscow courtroom, 2005



## The Russia Conundrum

How the West Fell for Putin's Power Gambit — and How to Fix It  
by Mikhail Khodorkovsky, with Martin Sixsmith  
WH Allen, 352pp, £20

pay cuts for oil workers after a collapse in global energy prices. After Petukhov's assassination, protests broke out in the city and locals accused Khodorkovsky of having ordered the hit. His chief of security and a business partner were later convicted of the murder.

Khodorkovsky has always denied the Kremlin's allegations, which were filed two days after he had said that revolution in Russia was "inevitable and necessary". Yet while the murder charges may well have been trumped up, Khodorkovsky does not mention them in his book.

It's a puzzling omission that becomes even more inexplicable when you consider that Alexander Litvinenko, the former Russian agent who was poisoned with polonium in London in 2006, had alleged shortly before his murder that the mayor was killed on the orders of the FSB, the Russian state security service. Indeed, Martin Sixsmith, Khodorkovsky's co-author, covered Litvinenko's claims in detail in his 2010 book *Putin's Oil*.

Khodorkovsky, a former deputy minister of energy, has crossed paths with some of Russia's most notorious figures, including Vladislav Surkov, the Kremlin's one-time "grey cardinal". A novelist and fan of Tupac Shakur, the American rapper, Surkov was responsible for transforming national television into slavishly pro-Kremlin platforms and creating a docile parliamentary opposition that provided the masses with the illusion of a genuine democracy. An opposition politician once called him "the lord of darkness".

Khodorkovsky gave Surkov his first big break when he appointed him to head his advertising and public relations department in the 1990s. Bizarrely, however, the book contains just one mention of Surkov — a footnote on page 99.

It's as if Khodorkovsky has set out to purge any tensions from his book. After his arrest in 2003, Bill Browder, the American-born British financier who was at the time one of the biggest foreign investors in Russia, hailed Putin's move as necessary for Russia's development.

"We should... fully support [Putin] in his task of taking back control of the country from the oligarchs," Browder wrote. Browder, now one of Putin's most vocal critics, has since retracted his comments. In any case, Khodorkovsky does not mention the episode. He does, however, find time to tell of his passion for the "fabulous" music of Annie Lennox.

Like Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, Khodorkovsky is held in far better regard in the West than at home, where he is widely associated with the bandit capitalism of the immediate post-Soviet years. "For my supporters, I was a passionate champion of democracy, battling to save the nation's soul; for my detractors, I was a greedy oligarch who stole the people's inheritance. Neither version is the whole truth," Khodorkovsky writes. He is clear-eyed about the risks of Putin, but says he has learnt to live with the threat of "the polonium slipped into my tea, the novichok on my doorknob".

Despite its flaws, Khodorkovsky's book is a pertinent reminder that despite talk of the Russian people's "collective responsibility" for the war in Ukraine, Putin's readiness to clamp down on dissent means there is little that they could have realistically done to prevent it. As Khodorkovsky reminds us: "Putin is not Russia and Russia is not Putin."

**He has learnt to live with the threat of 'the polonium slipped into my tea'**

business disputes were often settled with bombs and automatic weapons. Yet this is a minor omission.

Two years after his release from prison, Khodorkovsky was charged in absentia with organising the 1998 murder of Vladimir Petukhov, the mayor of Nefteyugansk, a Siberian oil town that was the headquarters for Yukos. Petukhov, who was gunned down on Khodorkovsky's birthday, had clashed with Yukos over its decision to stop making tax payments directly into the town's budget, as well as

founded what is now English National Ballet; Balanchine, who started New York City Ballet, became the founding father of American ballet.

Three female key figures in the birth of British ballet worked for Diaghilev. There was Alicia Markova, the dainty English ballerina who went on to co-found ENB in London. There was Marie Rambert, a teacher hired by Diaghilev to help Nijinsky stage *The Rite of Spring* — she later begat Ballet Rambert, today a modern dance company. And, perhaps most grandly, a young Anglo-Irish dancer named Ninette de Valois who used the lessons she learnt dancing for Diaghilev in the Twenties when she created what became the Royal Ballet.

Christiansen takes the reader up to the present day when little of the Ballets Russes legacy has survived intact on our stages. Sadly, Diaghilev never filmed any of his extensive and historic repertoire, while old black-and-white photographs — such as those in this book, if only there were more! — can but hint at the beauty and novelty of an art form in motion. "What remains of the Ballets Russes in the 21st century is the stuff of shadows and outlines, images frozen in books, memories of other people's memories," Christiansen writes. Happily, though, he writes about his subject with such descriptive flair and affectionate animation that its very essence leaps off the page.

# books

# Dispatches from 'hell's own cesspool'

**The brutalities of the Pacific War are rendered in painful, poignant detail here, says Gerard DeGroot**

**H**ere were all the horrors of war," wrote the US Marine Thurman Miller, "all the degrees of degradation to which the human race could descend... We were hardened by much training... now our killing potential was amplified. The second ingredient, hatred, was now added... What kind of warfare was this?"

The date was August 12, 1942, the place Guadalcanal — the largest of the Solomon Islands. Miller had just witnessed the aftermath of a slaughter that occurred when his buddies walked blindly into an ambush. Not satisfied with mere killing, the Japanese had hacked the Americans to pieces. Random body parts littered the ground.

"The first thing I saw," a sergeant recalled, "was the severed head of a Marine... the head was moving back and forth in the water and looked like it was alive. Then I realised it was just bobbing in the small waves lapping at the shore." For most of these Americans, this was their first taste of war. "Why would anybody do this?" a bewildered 17-year-old asked. "Wasn't killing 'em enough?"

War is grotesque. Saul David understands this and his latest book is packed with ugliness. The gruesome detail is brutally accurate, never gratuitous. David is fascinated by war, held in its seductive grip, yet his passion for the topic never causes him to whitewash war's loathsome nature.

David examines the Pacific War from August 1942, when the first American combat troops arrived, to the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima three years later. This is not a drone's view — battles observed from a safe distance. It is instead written from the perspective of a single unit: the "Devil Dogs" of K Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines. Their experience is dirty, smelly, loud and chaotic — "hell's own cesspool". Shell fragments tear a young soldier's flesh. Rotting corpses explode in the blistering heat. A marine, shot through the lungs, gasps for his mother as he spits blood and dies.

The Devil Dogs were among the first units in and the last out. As Allied forces edged ever closer to Japan, they fought at Guadalcanal, Cape Gloucester, Peleliu and Okinawa. They were preparing to invade the Japanese mainland when the atom bomb brought blessed release. The enemy was not just the Japanese, but also a forbidding environment — raging heat, dense jungles, razor-sharp coral and malarial swamps. The marines fought rats, crocodiles, huge land crabs and spiders the size of soup bowls. They were always wet; their socks rotted in their shoes.

"So how the hell did I end up in this godforsaken place?" one soldier asked after landing on Guadalcanal. Yet worse was to come; Peleliu turned out to be "30 days of the meanest around-the-clock slaughter that desperate men can inflict on each other".

These marines were a cross-section of American society. They included a dirt-



**WHAT HORRORS AWAIT?** US Marines landing on Guadalcanal, one of the Solomon Islands, in 1942



**Devil Dogs**  
First In, Last Out — King Company from Guadalcanal to the Shores of Japan  
by Saul David

William Collins,  
604pp, £25

poor bumpkin from Appalachia, a New Englander studying for his PhD and an heir to the Tabasco fortune. Suffering was their only commonality. One of the band, Eugene Sledge, wrote, "Up there, on the line... we'd forged a bond that time would never erase. We were brothers." They went by nicknames, such as Hillbilly, Sledgehammer and Snafu, that make them all too familiar and all too tragic. Bob Oswalt, who wanted to be a brain surgeon, instead had his head torn open by a grenade. "What a waste," wrote Sledge, who went on to become a biology professor, and his friend. "War... destroys a nation's best."

The islands were an assembly line of death. Survival had almost nothing to do with competence; good soldiers died and bad ones survived. By 1945, replacements were dying before hardened veterans had time to learn their names. Reviewing his troops after Guadalcanal, Admiral William Halsey was shocked by their "gaunt, malaria-ridden bodies, their faces lined from what seemed like a nightmare of years".

For some, death came as a release from corrosive terror. One night on Peleliu, a soldier started yelling hysterically. His comrades, worried that he would reveal their position, first tried to comfort him, then gave him morphine, then punched him in the jaw. Nothing worked. Desperate and afraid, they bashed his head with a shovel. That shut him up, but it also killed him. As David reveals, there were so many ways to perish in this war. He describes these men in exquisite detail; we get to know them and then they die.

We're now living in a golden age of military history. War books are so good because we've moved beyond the hunger for heroes. In the Pacific War, courage was not extraordinary. "Uncommon valour," one soldier wrote, "was displayed so often it went largely unnoticed." Yet these brave and otherwise good men struggled to remain decent. When a Japanese soldier jumped into an American foxhole, there was nothing glorious about the subsequent confrontation; no gentlemanly rules of combat were observed. The marine prevailed by thrusting his finger

## The marines fought rats, crocodiles, huge crabs and spiders the size of soup bowls

into his opponent's eye-socket. That, Sledge wrote, "was the... brutish reality of war".

The marines seldom took prisoners. Some collected the teeth of their enemies. One proudly showed off a cherished souvenir — the desiccated hand of a Japanese soldier, hacked off and carefully dried in the sun. A lieutenant enjoyed urinating in the mouths of Japanese corpses. The war made otherwise good men into savages. A doctor confessed that the greatest challenge he faced was not the wounds or the malaria or the jungle rot, but "a disturbance of the whole organism — a disorder of thinking and living, or even wanting to live".

David's portrait of these brutalised men is subtly textured; they are neither uniformly good nor consistently bad. Small acts of kindness seem monumental in an environment dominated by despair. A soldier cradles the head of his comrade as he dies. Another falls in love during leave in Australia. Yet another makes a bracelet of shells for his mother. "I hope, because those dainty little shells came from such a dreadful place, that you won't fail to see their beauty and know [that] they show you were in my mind continuously."

The Pacific War is rendered in painful and poignant detail. David is helped by the fortunate coincidence that the Devil Dogs included an extraordinary number of talented writers who recorded their experiences in diaries, letters and memoirs. Yet the real credit must go to the author who knits together this vast collection of material into a narrative that reads like war in real time. It's war unplugged: cruelty, destruction, pain, but also love, kindness and camaraderie. I cried for these men, then thanked God that I will never have to send my son to war.

The Devil Dogs welcomed the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which brought a quick end to their misery. To them, nuclear weapons seemed ironically humane. When I wrote a book about the atom bomb 18 years ago, I argued that those bombings were unnecessary and barbaric. I still believe in the rational truth of that conclusion, but, having read *Devil Dogs*, I can now accept that rationality is, under the circumstances, an irrelevant indulgence.

# How the rich plan to escape the coming apocalypse

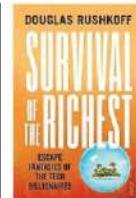
**A hideout in the Pacific? A bunker in Alaska? Hugo Rifkind on the survival fantasies of paranoid billionaires**

**D**id you ever see *The Admirable Crichton*? It's a classic film from the 1950s. Kenneth More plays a butler, Crichton, who is shipwrecked in the South Seas with the family he serves. Cutting a long story short, it turns out that the family is useless at everything. So by the time they are rescued, he's ruling the island and they are calling him "the Guv". And that's as decent a way as any to understand precisely what it is that gives today's super, super, super-rich the terrors.

Douglas Rushkoff's *Survival of the Richest* starts with a tremendous story. He's a professor of media theory and digital economics at Queens College, City University of New York. A few years ago he was invited to speak at a conference at a luxury resort in a distant desert somewhere, location withheld. Having assumed his audience would be "a hundred or so investment bankers", he was startled, eventually, to realise that his audience was to be only five men who wanted to quiz him on all things tech. Personally, I choose to see them as the billionaires in *Squid Game*. "Eventually," he writes, "they edged into their real topic of concern: New Zealand or Alaska? Which region will be less impacted by the coming climate crisis?"

What these men wanted, he realised, was to prepare for the end of the world. They wanted to talk shelters, bunkers, sealed air supplies. Even then, though, there was one overriding worry. "How do I maintain authority over my security force after the event?" asked the chief executive officer of a brokerage house. And Rushkoff didn't know. Others suggested combination locks on food supplies, disciplinary collars, robots that guard the guards. None of it seemed feasible. Ultimately, his best suggestion was that the billionaire should just try to make his henchmen like him. At one point, he suggested that "the best way to make sure your head of security doesn't slit your throat tomorrow is to pay for his daughter's bat mitzvah today". His audience just laughed.

At this point we're only a few pages into this book, and it seems as if there should be a wild ride ahead. Unfortunately, rather than studying the mad plans of the rich to survive the apocalypse, Rushkoff is far more interested in why they think one is coming, and how it informs everything they do, a view that trickles down to the rest of us. He calls this "the Mindset". The thing is, while the Mindset is interesting,



**Survival of the Richest**  
Escape Fantasies of the Tech Billionaires  
by Douglas Rushkoff  
Scribe, 212pp; £20

tion and sickness are hard to keep out, particularly if the factory that makes your air filters is thousands of miles away in China and has been overrun by zombies.

There's the security issue, but also a moral issue. Or, as one prepper puts it, "Honestly, I am less concerned about gangs with guns than the woman at the end of the driveway holding a baby and asking for food." It's that morality that is the point of this book. Rushkoff points out that many escape fantasies, such as seasteading, are less about the apocalypse than the desire to escape "congressional inquiries, anti-monopoly regulations or regressive technophobia".

The Mindset, Rushkoff writes, "favours the extraordinary achievements of wealthy individuals using technology to set themselves apart from the common folk, control the natural environment and overcome the cycles of life". He sees it as having infected us all, particularly during the Covid pandemic, and not only because we hoarded food and toilet paper. With Amazon deliveries and Zoom conversations, we all learnt to live as if in survivalist

**GET AWAY FROM IT ALL**  
Design for a floating city part-funded by the billionaire Peter Thiel



it's not nearly as interesting as the bonkers escape plans to which it leads.

Before we move on, then, a bit more about them. Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk want to move to space. Peter Thiel has a compound in New Zealand. Mark Zuckerberg, probably, wants to put on his Metaverse headset and never take it off again. Others favour "seasteading", which is essentially living on an oil rig. The problem with all of these endgames, though, is that they are delicate, miserable or both. Do you want to live in a tin can in space? Or on an oil rig? For ever?

Rushkoff mentions a company called Vivos, which sells luxury underground apartments in structures such as converted missile silos around the world, complete with pools and wine vaults. Yet, he writes, "the probability of a fortified bunker actually protecting its occupants from the reality of, well, reality is very slim". You will run out of food. Alone on your island, you will get appendicitis. Your sealed farm will develop contaminants. Pollution, radia-

**Jeff Bezos wants to move to space. Peter Thiel has a compound in New Zealand**

bubbles. In doing so, though, we fell victim to "the dumbwaiter effect", in which "technology separates the human actor from the human cost". Our independence was an illusion; others unseen were keeping us alive.

One problem with this book is that I'm simply not convinced that the rich separating themselves from the poor is new, or anything to do with the tech age at all. I mean, I've seen *Titanic*. Another problem is that when Rushkoff considers different futures, he grows decidedly woolly.

At the end he discusses "bounded economics", in which small communities reinvest their profits back into themselves, a clear alternative to the dominant capitalist idea of sucking the world dry and running away. Like a lot of this book though, this is discussed only through the prism of being something Rushkoff once said somewhere else at a conference; an interesting notion thrown out while the author is rushing off somewhere else — although I suppose it's no huge criticism to say of a book that it leaves you wanting much more of everything it discusses. At any rate, the big takeaway is clear: your bunker won't save you. Time to make nice with the butler.

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# books

# The runaways who broke India's taboos

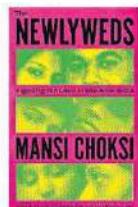
**This powerful book follows three couples who defied their families to pursue love. Review by Marianne Power**

**O**n the night of November 27, 2016, Dawinder Singh dropped a bottle of sleeping pills outside his neighbour's door. When her parents had finished watching their Hindi soap opera and gone to bed, Neetu Rani sneaked outside and picked up the drugs.

Two nights later she crushed them into her parents' rice and beans and waited for them to fall asleep. By midnight Neetu was panicking. Her parents were still awake. She called Dawinder. "Be patient," he told her and prayed. An hour later, her parents were asleep and she hauled four suitcases containing all her worldly possessions into a getaway car. "Now you are my wife," Dawinder said, putting bangles on her wrist. It was just like the movies, she thought. Only without the costumes.

The couple were running away because their relationship was taboo, not just because they are of different castes, but because marrying someone from your own small rural village is considered akin to incest in many parts of India.

Their situation was dire. A member of the vigilante group Love Commandos,



**The Newlyweds**  
Fighting for Love  
in the New India  
by Mansi Choksi

Icon, 224pp;  
£16.99



**IN HIDING** Reshma and Preethi, a lesbian couple, pretended to be destitute sisters

which promises to shelter runaway couples, had conned them out of all their savings. Meanwhile, they learnt that a couple who had eloped had been found strangled and poisoned, victims of a so-called honour killing.

Yet they were not the only ones in danger. When they eventually married, Neetu's relatives arrived at Dawinder's family home with axes and machetes. His mother was beaten until she was unconscious as punishment for the son who had brought dishonour on their daughter.

This is just one of the stories that feature in *The Newlyweds*, a staggeringly good work of literary journalism following the paths of three Indian couples who defy their families to pursue a love marriage in a country that still adheres to the centuries-old system of caste, class, clan and arranged marriage.

Mansi Choksi opens the book by explaining that even though two in every three Indians are under the age of 35 and have grown up with the internet, smartphones and social media, young people still feel that caste and religion are the defining aspect of their identity.

"One third of us believe that intercaste marriages will destroy Indian society," Choksi writes. "Half of us are completely opposed to inter-religious marriage. Only one in seven of us approves of dating before marriage. Four in five of us married with permission from our parents, and less than 6 per cent of us chose our own partners.

Most of us think like our parents and conduct our lives based on the fear of disappointing them."

Choksi states: "When young people choose their own partners, we threaten order with chaos." And so the book starts with a warning.

Choksi is an award-winning journalist who grew up in India, studied journalism at Columbia University and now lives in Dubai with her husband and son. She spent hundreds of hours with the couples over six years to create this meticulously

## When young people choose their own partners, we threaten order with chaos'

researched and hugely empathetic account. No names are changed and the couples she writes about are photographed throughout the book.

Much like Lisa Taddeo's *Three Women*, it reads more like a novel than a piece of non-fiction. It's pacy, vivid and rich in detail as we follow these couples on the run, encountering dodgy characters and facing genuine physical threat.

As well as Dawinder and Neetu, we meet Arif, a Muslim, and Monika, a Hindu, who fall in love and are forced to run away after Monika becomes pregnant and they cannot find someone to perform the abor-

tion. Monika converts to Islam to marry Arif without her family's permission—but word of their elopement reaches Bajrang Dal, a militant Hindu group who turn up at Arif's family home with swords, demanding the couple's return. Arif is accused of committing "Love Jihad"—a conspiracy theory spread by nationalists who believe that Muslims are seducing Hindu women to make them convert. His family is questioned by the police as the couple take shelter with a distant relative, with no clothes or money.

Finally, we meet a lesbian couple, Reshma and Preethi, from the southern Indian state of Telangana, who are distant relatives. Preethi is the daughter of Reshma's father's cousin's sister and they meet at a family funeral.

"Do you feel there is a fire between us?" Reshma asks in the kitchen. "Yes" came the clear bell reply. They run away together and pretend to be destitute sisters to get free accommodation at an ashram.

Each of the stories is as dramatic as any of the Bollywood movies and soaps that the young couples have all spent hours watching with their families or on their phones, movies that promise that love conquers all. The reality is not so simple.

Choksi conveys how high the stakes are while also capturing tiny moments with great lyricism. Take this moment when Monika and Arif flee: "The familiar views that comforted them had begun to disappear. Slowly, the city left them, then the trees lost their flowers. The rivers dried up, turning into barren sweeps, and Arif felt his throat turn coarse, as if he has swallowed a ball of hair. When the train pulled into Akola Junction, Monika leaned out to give herself a view of her destiny. What she saw was a great cloud of red dust."

How much of these kinds of details are imagined and how much came from the interviews is unclear, but it feels sensitive and true. The couples trusted Choksi with the intimate details of their lives and she proves herself worthy of that trust.

*Three Women* allowed us inside the heads of three women, but here we are allowed into the hearts and minds of

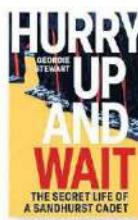
# Sandhurst puts ironing in the soul

**A former officer reveals the bizarre customs and absurd rules of the army academy. Review by Francesca Peacock**

**Y**ou might think that preparing to enter Sandhurst — the Royal Military Academy where all British Army officers receive their training — would be a flurry of fitness work, strength training and military history revision. As it happens, it's more about ironing boards.

"I spoke with sales assistants and prepared myself physically by carting around catalogues and testing different iron and ironing board combinations in department stores," Geordie Stewart tells us in his court-martial-worthy memoir of his time as an officer cadet, *Hurry Up and Wait*. Stewart informs his reader, with no detail spared, that he went for a "Sandhurst classic: a Brabantia Titan coming in at a nervy £69.99, reduced from £119.99 in the late summer sales".

Those are surely the words that strike fear into any enemy combatant's heart — this is, truly, what makes Britain great.



**Hurry Up and Wait**  
The Secret Life of a Sandhurst Cadet  
by Geordie Stewart

Unicorn, 220pp;  
£12.99

As anyone who has read Joseph Heller's *Catch-22* knows, army life is an unending sequence of absurd rules, overbearing instructors and bizarre customs. However, at Sandhurst — the training ground for about 200 cadets in each 44-week course — the rules are arcane and specific even by army standards. Trainees sleep on the floor to avoid "crumpling [their] pristinely ironed sheets", clean their sink after each

## Trainees sleep on the floor to avoid 'crumpling pristinely ironed sheets'

shave to avoid an ear-piercing scream of "PUBE IN SINK!" and can be punished for something as minor as having a dead fly in their room (the offence of "having a pet in the grounds of Royal Military Academy Sandhurst"). If that didn't sound odd enough, trainees start each day by downing a litre of water and singing the national anthem — showing their dual allegiance to hydration and the monarch.

Stewart knows these routines, customs and idiosyncrasies better than any outsider.

He trained at Sandhurst in 2013 ("the finest and most well-respected military training establishment in the world") before serving for five years in a reconnaissance regiment, the Light Dragoons. He is as at home with a "TLA" (three-letter abbreviation, if you didn't know) as he is with a world of "PLANEX" ("a military planning exercise") and military time (each morning starts, at the latest, at "zero six hundred hours").

It wasn't always this way. When he began the course, Stewart was a "military virgin", unlike many of his fellow attendees who had been part of the University Officers' Training Corps or served as officers in the Reserve. There is something interesting about the peculiarly British phenomenon of young men (and, since 1984, women) training for just under a year to become military leaders who are responsible for the lives of other soldiers. Unlike the American equivalent, West Point (where graduating takes four years), or the École Spéciale Militaire in France (a three-year course), Sandhurst is not a university. It teaches one thing, its motto "serve to lead". Yet other than describing his fellow trainees' misdeeds (one cadet bolts from the academy to "charm a trainee lawyer



from Fulham called Tilly", while another drunkenly pisses himself in a chapel parade). Stewart does little to interrogate whether the "finest military establishment" succeeds in preparing its officers.

Nor does he ask why so many young "white, middle class and university-educated" men and women choose military service. Stewart joined at a time when "front pages... were covered with images of coffins draped in the Union Flag" and "fundraising ventures for wounded veterans were common", but doesn't ask why

**Soma Sara**

will be discussing feminism and sexism on Sunday, October 9 with Laura Bates, Mandu Reid and Abigail Bergstrom [cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature](http://cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature)



**ACROSS THE DIVIDE**  
Arif and Monika, a Hindu and Muslim couple. Below: Neetu and Dawinder, who come from different castes



this tragedy and danger interested him. He has only the rather bland stock response: "To an adventurous young man, the Army began to appear more honourable and worthy."

After the suicide of the cadet Olivia Perks in 2019, there has been greater focus on the allegedly misogynistic and "toxic" environment of Sandhurst. Stewart, now 33 and an explorer and mountaineer, does little to engage with these accusations, and doesn't mention women beyond the cliché "80 per cent of cadets start with a girlfriend and 20 per cent smoke. By the end, 80 per cent smoke and 20 per cent have a girlfriend".

The world he describes is certainly harsh with possessions "thrown out of the window", sleep deprivation to the point of hallucination, and commanding officers wielding their power just because they can. Yet it is impossible to escape the distinct sense that Stewart relished this treatment. "It was absurd, hilarious, brilliant, demanding and unforgettable," he reminisces. Stewart sums it up with typical insight: "We all loved to hate it, except for those who genuinely hated or loved it."

Stewart is undoubtedly a victim of "Sandhurst Stockholm syndrome", but his book, is, unfortunately, not insightful or well written enough to entrap his readers too. According to one of Stewart's sergents, there are only two gradings for performance: "poor and satisfactory". *Hurry Up and Wait* is undoubtedly the former.



**MAKING AN OFFICER**  
Geordie Stewart was an officer cadet in 2013

the couples and also — to a lesser extent — the family members whose lives are torn apart by their children's decision to run away from the family.

There is a strong sense of each character being a strand in a large tapestry and as such they cannot act without it affecting the whole.

The ramifications for the whole family are huge. As Arif puts in a text to a friend of his: "Love marriage = Destroy life of everyone who belongs to you."

In the second half of the book we see each couple struggle with the consequences of what they have done. Monika and Arif find themselves in a one-room flat on the "second floor of a building that resembled an open mouth with rotting teeth". Reshma starts behaving like her abusive father, hitting Preethi with a belt, repeating the childhood conditions she took huge risks to escape.

The couples' stories highlight the political and historical forces that shape modern India. Monika and Arif are victims of Hindu fundamentalism, which is flourishing under the premiership of Narendra Modi.

Preethi and Reshma's story shows the impact of Section 377, the colonial-era law that criminalised homosexuality, and we see them celebrate its overturning in 2018.

The book ends with no neat conclusions about the state of marriage — arranged or otherwise — in India. Instead it does what all great writing should — it puts us into the world of someone else, so completely that days later I find myself missing the couples and wondering how their stories end.

# Was sexual liberation worth it?

**Our porn-saturated culture is terrible for young women — so let's tear it down, says Nina Power**



**Everyone's Invited**  
Essays by Soma Sara  
Gallery UK, 256pp; £14.99

A reasonable person might conclude from Soma Sara's book, which addresses the downsides of today's sexual culture for young people, that something has gone terribly, terribly wrong, and that it may be better, if not a matter of urgent necessity, to burn everything down, salt the earth, burn it down again, nuke the planet, self-immolate, then maybe — just maybe — start again.

In June 2020 Sara posted on Instagram about her negative experiences of sexism. After many of her friends shared their own stories about unsolicited dick pics, rape jokes and other kinds of sexual bullying, Sara set up a website called Everyone's Invited where young people were encouraged to anonymously submit testimonials about "rape culture" in schools and colleges (50,000 submissions and counting).

The site's project was picked up by the media and widely discussed. I remember walking past a private school in south London in the weeks after one of the lockdowns, noticing that it was strewn with placards and ribbons protesting against sexual abuse. After social distancing, then, a moral panic about proximity among the young.

While individuals were not named on the website, specific educational establishments were, which is presumably why Ofsted hastily commissioned a review in 2021. The inspectors concluded that schools and colleges "should assume that sexual harassment and online sexual abuse are happening in their setting, even when there are no specific reports, and put in place a whole-school approach to address them". The NSPCC launched a helpline, and Sara and others involved in her project have met various ministers, government departments and charities.

In this collection of essays, Sara, a recent alumna of Wycombe Abbey and UCL, documents this recent history, describes her role in it and seeks to alert older generations to the reality of the "modern sexual landscape". Most parents, she says, have no idea what's happening in their teenagers' lives (did they ever?).

The testimonies on her website, Sara suggests, reveal that teenage girls' formative sexual experiences are "saturated with shame, embarrassment, humiliation and pain". Emphasising the importance of empathy, connection and understanding, because, after all, we are "complex and intricate beings who are capable of both harm and good", Sara wishes her short essays to represent a "healing journey".



**SHAME ON US** Soma Sara, 23, is campaigning against "rape culture"

The extent to which this book produces this healing is debatable. Sara intends the insights around the effects of sexualised images to be shocking. She notes that her generation is the first to be brought up entirely in the age of ubiquitous and infinitely available hardcore pornography. "Young people believe that porn is real," she states, bluntly. Technology has eroded the boundaries between fantasy and reality, online and offline life, to such a degree that the brains of young people have been fundamentally, although let us hope not irreparably, rewired. But haven't teenagers always been horny? Haven't they always struggled to reconcile their desires with reality, their awkwardness with bravado, their insecurity with play-acted sexiness?

Because Sara recognises that one of to-

## The only solution to this hellscapre would be a world that prohibited porn

day's cultural battles concerns the legacy of the sexual revolution, she admits that she was wary of taking such a "heavy stance" on pornography and "sex positivity". Yet if what she says is true — that pornography and sexualised images have created a world in which violent, anti-women "scripts" are being played out in the daily behaviour of men and women — then the real and urgent conclusion cannot be that we simply need to listen more.

Something more radical is required, and this is the unwritten, and, frankly, unintentional, implication of Sara's book. The only solution to the hellscapre she depicts would be a world that prohibited pornographic images. This would also be a world where boys and girls were separately educated, as Sara was, since much of the harmful behaviour she describes takes place at school. There would be no unsupervised parties and certainly no meetings between the sexes where alcohol and drugs were con-

sumed. It would be a world of chaperones, of older people making value judgments about the suitability of opposite-sex companions among the young.

It would be a world of manners, social codes based in tradition and gentle, even graceful, interaction where sex was a secondary concern to goodness. Perhaps sex would only occur in loving unions where pregnancy was a welcome possibility. It would be the creation of a realm entirely opposite to the one in which we reside, where to be a woman is, as Sara puts it, "to be in pain". In this different world, young men would rarely, if ever, run the risk of behaving badly or being accused of doing so. In one encounter detailed in the book, Sara is confronted by a mother who is angry that her son will be unfairly demonised by the Everyone's Invited project. Of course, boys are just as confused as girls are — they just happen, by nature, to express it differently.

Proposing a sex-segregated and heavily policed culture is not, of course, where Sara arrives, more's the pity. Instead, she advocates more empathy, more understanding, and, bravely, given the climate, rehabilitation. It is not, of course, Sara's fault that she cannot call for a world that would prevent the problems created by decades of the unleashing of antisocial forces in the name of freedoms we didn't know we even wanted.

*Everyone's Invited* is, ultimately, relentlessly and terribly depressing. It paints a picture of a society that describes itself as "progressive", but in reality anything but. Here young people are so saturated in such violent sexual imagery that they barely know what they are doing, only that it is causing them pain. Everyone is invited, indeed, to judge whether the freedoms afforded by our supposed sexual liberation are, ultimately, worth it. On the basis of Sara's essays, we would have to conclude that they are not. Neo-traditionalism here we come.

**Nina Power** is the author of *What Do Men Want? Masculinity and Its Discontents* (Allen Lane)

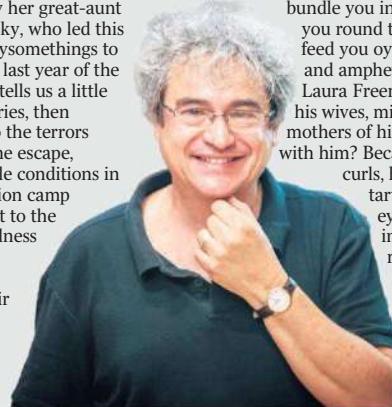
# books

## paperbacks

**Helgoland: The Strange and Beautiful Story of Quantum Physics**  
by Carlo Rovelli  
*Penguin, 208pp; £10.99*

The suave Italian physicist Carlo Rovelli, below, who owes his scientific fame to his role as one of the founders of quantum loop theory, made his literary reputation with *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics*, which has sold more than a million copies. This book, named after the island where Werner Heisenberg discovered his uncertainty principle, "is his most beautiful yet", declared James Marriott in his review. Its principal theme is that reality as we think we know it does not really exist. "There is no essential underlying reality and nothing maintains an independent existence free of the shimmering, fragile webs of relation." Huh? Well, you've got to read this lyrical, persuasive book.

**The Nine** by Gwen Strauss  
*Manilla Press, 400pp; £9.99*  
"The Nine is a triumph of imagination," wrote Christina Hardymon. It reconstructs the escape of a band of nine intrepid women, all fighters in the French Resistance, from a German forced labour camp. Strauss, a poet, was inspired by her great-aunt Hélène Podlasky, who led this group of twentysomethings to freedom in the last year of the war. The book tells us a little of the back stories, then plunges us into the terrors and thrills of the escape, from the terrible conditions in the concentration camp where they met to the life-saving kindness of strangers. Finally, we hear about their postwar lives and how they were indelibly scarred.



**Miss Dior: A Wartime Story of Courage and Couture**  
by Justine Picardie  
*Faber, 448pp; £20*

This is the beautiful, haunting story of Catherine Dior, sister of the man who would become France's greatest couturier. At the age of 26, Catherine, an agent of the French resistance, was seized by four armed Gestapo officers on the street in Paris and interrogated using an ice bath. The story moves between the wartime horrors of Rue de la Pompe, the prison at Fresnes where Catherine awaited her deportation, Ravensbrück, where she was starved and enslaved, and the extravagant ecstasies of postwar Paris. The change of tone is a little jarring, but the story is told in "spare and elegant prose", wrote Laura Freeman.

**The Lives of Lucian Freud: Youth**  
by William Feaver  
*Bloomsbury, 704pp; £14.99*

Lucian Freud, who died in 2011, used to joke to his biographer, William Feaver, that he had no objection to a "novel" of his life being published after his death. This first volume reads like fiction as it takes the painter up to the age of 46 — during which time he was kicked out of one boarding school, burnt down another, ran up debts, terrorised women, and painted forensic, unforgiving portraits. "Freud and

Feaver seize you by the elbows, bundle you into a Bentley, haul you round the nightclubs, feed you oysters, Guinness and amphetamines," wrote Laura Freeman. "Why did his wives, mistresses and the mothers of his children put up with him? Because with his curls, his sideburns, his tartan trousers, his eye, his art, his inspiration, his reams of poetry learnt by heart, his tall tales and his demon skill at ping pong, he was irresistible."

Know  
your  
times

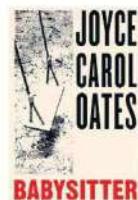
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Literature Festival

### The 2022 Booker Prize

Join the director of the Booker Prize Foundation, Gaby Wood, in conversation with the writers on this year's Booker shortlist on Saturday, Oct 15 [cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature](http://cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature)

# A Stepford wife meets a serial killer

**This twisty 1970s-set novel goes at a rattling pace, says Kate Saunders**



**Babysitter**  
by Joyce Carol Oates  
*4th Estate, 432pp; £18.99*

The time is 1977; the place is Detroit. Beautiful Hannah Jarrett has come to a naff new hotel to meet a compelling but frightening man who awoke her slumbering sexuality by simply grasping her wrist at a fundraising dinner. Hannah lives in the affluent suburb of Far Hills with her husband, Wes, their two children and a nanny. In the normal way of things, Hannah's life is lived according to a "calendario" of shopping, hairdressers, committees for charities and lunches with her fellow Stepford wives. Beyond Hannah's insulated world, the city is being terrorised by a serial killer, known as the Babysitter, who abducts and kills children.

This is partly a psychological thriller, partly an exposure of American attitudes to race and gender, and wholly the latest length cut from the seemingly endless unspooling of Joyce Carol Oates, right. This is her 59th novel, apparently, although I haven't counted. Her prolificness and talent are the stuff of legend. Only at the very end do you see the extraordinary



grip that she has on her story and her characters.

Hannah can't explain why she is drawn to an encounter with a stranger, a man she knows as "YK". The sex is brutal and described in chilling detail. Oates hints at the darkness in Hannah's childhood: she has emphysema, caused by her father's endless cigar-smoking. Hannah always thinks of him as "Joker Daddy", and the reader is left to imagine what he did to her.

Just before she enters the hotel room for her first encounter, Hannah is jostled in the corridor by a nasty stranger who turns out to be the loser son of a rich acquaintance. Hannah's second encounter with YK is violent and nearly fatal, and she is driven back to Far Hills by a young man known as "Ponytail". Unable to hide her injuries, Hannah has to go along with her husband's assumption that she has been raped. Wes's unnerving response seems, for a moment, to send the story teetering over the edge of a conventional morality tale about white privilege. But no.

Oates deals in familiar "tropes" (she's too classy for mere clichés), but cleverly uses the reader's prejudices and assumptions to confound our expectations; *Babysitter* is never quite the novel we think it's going to be. Hannah comes to believe she is in a story of romantic passion, and has fantasies of introducing YK to her children. Ponytail and YK, however, are characters from something much nastier, and given backstories that are mostly convincing and heartbreaking.

The only hint of authorial laziness is that all roads seem to lead back to a children's home run by the Roman Catholic church. We now know that the

Catholic church of the 1970s was rife with abuse, but give the poor old left-footers a break; the literary protocol these days is that every single RC institution is so riddled with evil that it might as well be called the Church of the Pervy Fiddlers. For a writer of such power and intelligence, this approach is jarringly unoriginal.

Oates's greatest power lies in her genius for old-fashioned storytelling. *Babysitter* is a novel that pulls the reader along at a rattling pace, throwing out all kinds of thrilling twists, and with an ending that is as surprising as it is bleak.

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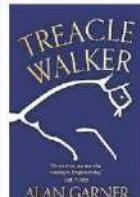
TIMES RADIO

# Riddles, bog men and comic capers

**This Booker contender is playful and a bit baffling, says Susie Goldsbrough**

Many good novels are a pleasure from the get-go, but *Treacle Walker* takes its sweet time. First we meet an odd lad called Joe, who sports an eye patch and sleeps above the chimney cupboard in a big lonely house. Then a pedlar called Treacle Walker shows up beneath his bedroom window and starts spouting riddles. The two exchange a few baffling pleasantries: "What do you want?" he said. "Rag and bone," said the man. "And you shall have pot and stone. That's fair. Or isn't it?" That sort of thing. It's all a bit strange and incomprehensible and hard to get into.

But I persevered, mostly because *Treacle Walker* has just made this year's Booker shortlist ("Garner's shamanic obliquities conjure a realm that reason alone could never access," said the chairman of the judges, Neil MacGregor — well, quite) and also because its author, 87-year-old Alan Garner, wrote books such as *The Weird-*



**Treacle Walker**  
by Alan Garner

4th Estate, 152pp; £8.99



**SWEET SUCCESS** The 87-year-old author Alan Garner made the Booker shortlist with this 15,000-word novella

stone of Brisingamen and *The Owl Service* — rollicking, mystical stories set in Garner's craggy Cheshire homelands that I read and loved and lingered over as a kid.

Gradually, *Treacle Walker* comes into focus. Joe seems to live completely alone in the old house, with its views of a mosquito-thick bog (we're very much in Garner country), so the story slips into that particular, snug pocket of children's literature about sick or lonely children who stumble into magical worlds. Think *Tom's Midnight Garden* or the Narnia stories. Joe, with his unwashed pyjamas and habit of telling the time by the sound of the local steam train, is clearly in need of escape.

Which is why *Treacle Walker* and, a bit later, *Thin Amren* (a naked bog man, obviously) show up. Both of them seem to have wandered out of a medieval morality tale, with their riddling speeches and courtly manners. If you're up for a bit of wordplay, Treacle's your guy: "You smell." Not I, Jo-

seph Coppock," said the man. "You smell that I stink. Let words be nice." I found my brain adjusting to it, slowly, appreciating the cleverness. Still, it would be a tough one to dip into on the Tube. Garner recently disclosed in an interview that he hardly reads any fiction. You can tell.

But the story hits the gas when Joe's pile of Knockout comics (which also give us a rough time frame for the tale — Knockout was popular in the 1940s) come to life. In desperate flight across the page from the bad guys, Stonehenge Kit the Ancient Brit suddenly climbs out of the strip and into Joe's bedroom. "He pulled himself through onto the mattress. **HOW DO, JOE?**" he said. The words came out of his mouth in a bubble, just as they did in the comic, and made no sound." The moment of recognition, of wonder in the midst of childish loneliness, touches your heart.

More comic-strip high jinks ensue, page-turning and playful, with shades of

*Alice Through the Looking Glass*. It's lovely stuff, although — with the exception of the pounding, cinematic climax — it lacks the myth-powered, mind-bending oomph of Garner's most loved works. I wanted more towering cliff faces, terrifying witches and lightning streaking across the sky.

The real problem with *Treacle Walker*, though, is that I don't know who it's for. According to Garner and some more ardent reviewers, it's about quantum physics (I must have missed all the subatomic stuff). Yet in other ways it's obviously a children's book (a label Garner shrugs off and which, of course, great writing can transcend), told as it is through Joe's eyes. But then the language is tricky (if delicious — flustication, Clanjandering) and the plot scattergun, and the Booker judges seem determined to make it sound as inaccessible as possible. Garner's a wonderful writer and this recognition is overdue, but *Treacle Walker* isn't his masterpiece.

## Rereading Demons by Fyodor Dostoevsky

**This classic foresaw the terror that would be unleashed by the Russian Revolution, says Orlando Figes**

The first time I read *The Possessed*, as it was called in Constance Garnett's classic translation, I was just a teenager. I had been so absorbed by *Crime and Punishment*, a book more suitable for teenagers, that I moved straight on to *The Possessed*, believing, I suppose, that Fyodor Dostoevsky's story of some "very strange events" caused by the arrival of some revolutionaries in a provincial town would be just as exciting.

The book, published in 1872, made little sense to me. There were too many Russian names that I could not get my head around, too many characters who came and went without a clear connection to the story line, which I could not follow anyway, and too many long discussions about God.

Having read the book again this year, this time as *Demons* in the excellent translation by Robert Maguire, I can understand why I was stumped by it the first time. It is a disorderly novel, one of the "loose and baggy monsters" disparaged by Henry James, and, like so many of the

Russian novels that he had in mind, without a clear beginning, middle or end. You have to stay with it for the first 200 pages before you start to see what it's about. I realise now that my juvenile confusion was Dostoevsky's purpose all along — to make the reader feel the chaos by not fully knowing what is going on.

The novel's Russian title (*Besy*) refers to a passage in the Book of Luke in which demons take possession of a herd of swine, which rush down a hill into a lake where they are drowned. In his Slavophile conception of the novel Dostoevsky's demons are the modern western ideologies — atheism, socialism, nihilism — that have taken

**Should we 'cancel' Demons? It could be seen as an influence on Putin's ideology**

hold of Russian youth, threatening the country's Orthodox beliefs and Russia's national character. They are represented by the novel's two main characters, Nikolai Stavrogin and Pyotr Verkhovensky, leaders of a revolutionary cell whose conspiratorial actions lead to mayhem in the town.

Dostoevsky modelled Verkhovensky on Sergei Nechaev, a Bolshevik before the Bolsheviks, whose rejection of all moral norms and calls for terror against anyone that blocked his path to power had

shocked even the most hardened revolutionaries. Dostoevsky had been following his trial in 1872 for the murder of one of his dissenting followers, a gruesome killing replicated in the novel by the murder of the gloomy Shatov by the Verkhovensky gang. Shatov had abandoned his socialist beliefs and embraced God, leading Verkhovensky to suspect him of informing the police about his revolutionary cell.

Like many of the revolution's leaders (Stalin at once comes to mind), Verkhovensky is a psychopath. He lies and deceives, bullies and manipulates his followers, and uses them as raw material for his revolutionary cause, which in fact is all about himself — the revenge of his wounded ego through the people's violence. We never really know if Verkhovensky believes in the cause himself, whether he is driven by a lust for power or provokes chaos simply for the hell of it.

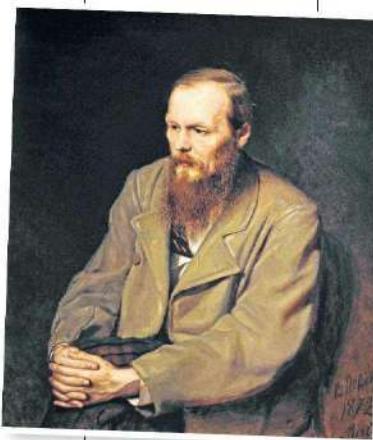
Stavrogin is similarly complex psychologically. The handsome son of the wealthy noblewoman Varvara Petrovna, on whose estate much of the action takes place, he has a charismatic power that attracts many followers, making him the ideal figurehead of the revolutionary cause. Dedicated to its abstract goal of liberation, he commits a

number of atrocious crimes (he rapes an 11-year-old girl, driving her to suicide) and often acts perversely in a cruel and degenerate manner, suggesting that he lacks any positive ideals. Neither knowing nor feeling good and evil, he derives a masochistic ecstasy from his awareness of his vileness before collapsing into self-loathing as he redisovers his conscience, if not his faith, towards the end.

For all the novel's flaws, it gives a penetrating psychological analysis of the new revolutionary type — the vengeful power-seeker, terrorist and martyr — that would burst on to the scene in 1917. No wonder it was practically banned in the Soviet Union.

Should we be "cancelling" the novel now? The invasion of Ukraine has led to calls for Russian culture to be removed from our concert halls, galleries and libraries. With its anti-western message and Slavophile conception of Russia's spiritual character, *Demons* could be seen as an influence on Putin's ideology.

However, that is no reason to shun it. As a prophetic warning of the dictatorial mindset that has misruled Russia for the past 100 years, it is a book as necessary now as it was when it appeared. Orlando Figes is author of *The Story of Russia* (Bloomsbury)



**REVOLUTIONARY** Portrait of Fyodor Dostoevsky by Vasily Perov, 1872

# books

# After humans? Intelligent bears

**Simon Ings on an alien autopsy gone wrong, a blast of cyberpunk and other SF highlights**

**Book  
of the  
month**

**Beyond the Burn Line**

by Paul McAuley  
Gollancz, 464pp; £22

They call themselves people. They are, with some significant exceptions, curious, peaceable, likeable and inventive. But they are not human. Pilgrim Saltmire is one of these (a mole, or badger, or what-you-will), a young academic determined to finish the monograph of his dear departed master, Able.

Humans vanished in flame long ago, leaving their burn line in the geological record. They are remembered as ogres. An entire civilisation of sapient bears rose and fell in their wake. They are hunted now; pitiful semi-articulate savages in bark skirts. The history of Pilgrim's world is richer than its resources.

McAuley's eccentric retread of late 19th-century science (Saltmire's kind are just wrapping their furry heads around the concept of adaptation through natural selection) provides the intellectual framework for a spirited tale of travel, manners and professorial skulduggery. The classics of ufology also get a makeover when Pilgrim stumbles upon evidence that humans have survived and thrived into the modern era, like Erich von Däniken's spacemen. McAuley is not a showy writer, but his fiendishness gets under your skin.

**Leech** by Hiron Ennes Tor, 336pp; £16.99  
Aeons into the future, in a snowbound château 330 miles from the city of Inultus, where the Interprovincial Medical Institute has its home and most of its distribut-

ed brain, an ambiguous, nameless, no-longer-human surgeon is conducting an autopsy on their predecessor, the private physician of a malignant mining baron.

As winter sets in and the weather worsens, our alien protagonist's line of communication with the hive mind in Inultus falters, leaving them feeling like "a frost-bitten finger already on the verge of detachment". Worse, their dead predecessor turns out to have been host to a parasite previously unknown to science, a predator that's out to eradicate, yes, doctors...

Hiron Ennes's debut is an intricate, well-observed marooned-community thriller that wears its genre debts a little too visibly: predatory symbote by *Alien*; Covenant; infected dog by *The Thing*; baron with outsourced organs by *Dune*; retro-fitted technology by every steampunk novel ever. Mind you, Ennes's quake-riddled, post-post-apocalyptic setting lingers long after reading.

**The Thousand Earths** by Stephen Baxter  
Gollancz, 592pp; £22

In 2154, John Hackett sets out for the Andromeda Galaxy, a round trip that will take five million years (or 12 shipboard years since he's travelling at a significant fraction of light speed). He hopes, by his example, to bind together a fractious humanity.

Millions of years in the future, meanwhile, well-born Mela is travelling downriver with her parents past hordes of refugees to see the Tide, the boundary beyond which their comfortable, fertile, artificial land falls away into mist and glass. This boundary moves; this world has 30



**The Unfolding**  
by AM Homes

Granta, 416pp; £20

**The dark side of the American dream is explored in this bold story, says John Self**

American democracy, observes the central character in this book, is a "rollercoaster. It goes up a couple of hundred feet and then plunges at a hundred miles an hour and what do people do? They get in line to go again."

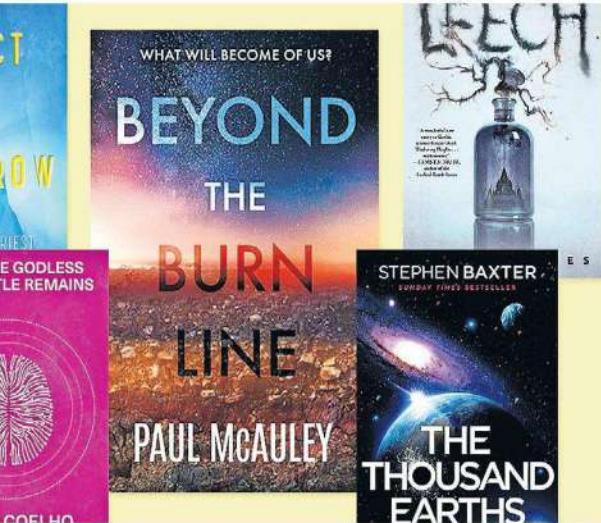
One man's rise, of course, is another's plunge, and America seems even more divided now than it was in 2008, when half the population cheered Barack Obama's election and the other half despaired at "some kind of socialist experiment". We forgot about those people then, but now we've seen what they gave us next.

So as we hold our noses, cross our legs and pass the sick bag before a likely second Trump term — O America! — it seems a

grand idea to have a novel that tells us how we got there. What's surprising is that it comes from AM Homes, right, who has had an adventurous career.

Her early novels — such as *The End of Alice* (1996), a tale of two paedophiles — were on the fringes, but she then moved front and centre. Her previous novel, *May We Be Forgiven* (2012), won the Women's Prize for Fiction, and the one before that, *This Book Will Save Your Life* (2006), earned a place on Richard and Judy's sofa. Those two books are tremendous, concealing darkness and sensitivity beneath a chaotic comic surface, and leaving the reader trampled, but grateful. So maybe Homes is ready for a state-of-the-nation novel. Maybe.

*The Unfolding* follows an Obama-hater named Hitchens, but known throughout as the Big Guy. He's a Republican who thinks Obama's election is "the American



**Science  
fiction**

years left before it resembles all too many of the thousand other "Earths" hanging in the heavens. Whatever far-far-future machine this is that sustains humanity on multiple worlds, it is running down.

Stephen Baxter dreams up cosmologies the way some people set crosswords: with equal parts rigour and glee. Such are his powers of invention, readers are inclined to forgive him his cursory attention to setting and character.

**Unto the Godless What Little Remains**  
by Mário Coelho Rebellion, 104pp; £3.99  
Trust the Internet ("Big Momma" in this breakneck tale) to fall in love with an urbane underachiever like Liverloin. And trust Liverloin (an unreal name for an unreal man, stuffed to the gills with boutique-bought quirks, kinks and enthusiasms), to have a long-suffering friend like Alice, who deserves a lot better than to be dragged along in hapless Liverloin's wake, pursued by dronecam Furies like some "Parisian Manic Pixie L5".

Alice, a persona-artist, eventually persuades Liverloin to "do a Flushing" so that he might at last remember who he is "underneath all the shopped parts". It's risky but the alternative is him being sliced and diced by Big Momma's authoritarian other half, DAIS, the Department of AI Safeguard. Descended from a dating app, it yields human agents like zombies in an effort to terminate Liverloin and so end Big Momma's infatuation with a mere mortal.

Just when you think cyberpunk has finally keeled over and died, some young

tyro speeds round the block causing mayhem. Expect moments of silly hyper-violence (no, you can't run on a broken shin), a spectacularly tight redemption plot, and a wholly satisfying (indeed, genuinely moving) last chapter. Rock'n'roll for the eyes.

**Expect Me Tomorrow** by Christopher Priest Gollancz, 336pp; £22

In the 19th century, it was not at all clear whether the world was getting warmer or cooler. Norwegian climatologist Adler Beck decides the world is going to freeze, and writes a book to that effect: "Take Heed! A Scientist Warns of the Terror to Come." Adler is the long-suffering and deep-pocketed fictional twin of Adolf Beck, an itinerant tenor whose real-life notoriety (look him up) stemmed from his involvement in a legal case involving theft, deception and mistaken identity.

In broiling near-future Hastings, meanwhile, psychological profiler Chad and his journalist twin brother, Greg, investigate their twisted family history with the aid of borrowed police equipment that enables them to glimpse the world through Adler and Adolf's long-dead eyes — but which are Adolf's and which are Adler's?

Priest's signatures are everywhere — paralytic fits, letters gone astray, bureaucratic tangles, top hats and the rest — and his themes are compelling enough, being the sheer bloody difficulty of field science and the nature of mistakes. Alas, *Expect me Tomorrow* does not work. The ingredients are all there, but they refuse to combine.

# Trump, Jell-O and the battle for America's soul



dream on the pyre", and that "we're going to have to do something". So he pulls together a band of his fellow wealthy white men and they draw up plans. Their tactics sound familiar from the Trump playbook: appointing lifetime judges, circulating misinformation. "You create the bullshit and then you spread it.

The more times it is repeated the more real it becomes." And when the Big Guy says "democracy is fragile", a delicious irony descends: he means it as a warning, but it sounds like a threat.

The problem, however, is that this is all delivered in long scenes of trivial, round-about dialogue that never go anywhere. It goes on and on for 400 pages. There is some funny and well-observed stuff, such as how the Big Guy's pals can only really talk behind the emotional shield of a hunting trip; or how the Big Guy himself — presented by Homes with

admirable sympathy — reveals his nursery mind with a love for miniature re-enactments. ("What's the orange stuff?" Jell-O masquerading as Agent Orange.) Yet it's all buried beneath the landfill. The better strand of the book has the Big Guy struggling to keep family life together in the face of his wife's alcoholism and his daughter's discovery of a secret. More of that would have been welcome.

When reading *The Unfolding*, I felt as divided as the US electorate. Above my head a presiding spirit admired Homes's boldness with conversational minutiae, and nodded at the hidden literary nuggets. Yet down on the sofa, my bum was getting numb waiting for something to happen.

Peppered throughout the book are references to other writers who addressed the dark side of the American dream — Tom Wolfe, John Cheever, Shirley Jackson — which just reminded me how much I'd rather have been reading them. We could do with a meaty, entertaining, horrifying novel about how America got from its first black president to its first orange one. But *The Unfolding* isn't it.

# bestsellers

## audiobook of the week

**The Life of Crime: Detecting the History of Mysteries and Their Creators** by Martin Edwards, read by Charles Armstrong, Collins Crime Club, 17hr 44min  
Lovers of crime novels will find this survey an inclusive cornucopia of novels. In print form it's a daunting doorstop, but the audiobook is, because of Charles Armstrong's pacey reading, immersive.

Martin Edwards is the closest thing there has been to a philosopher of crime writing. A fine novelist, he is president of the Detection Club and archivist of the Crime Writers' Association.

In the course of a survey ranging from William Godwin's 1794 *Caleb Williams* to Paula Hawkins's 2015 *The Girl on the Train*, he offers short, snappily written chapters. Deft summaries carefully avoid spoilers.

Most illuminating is the biographical information about authors, who often hid their identity, sex and co-writers behind a pen name. Ellery Queen, for instance, was two people.

Audible's library offers the opportunity to listen to many of the titles mentioned. Try Anthony Berkeley's 1929 *The Poisoned Chocolate Case* (read by Gordon Griffin, 8hr 4min) or James Hadley Chase's 1939 debut, *No Orchids for Miss Blandish* (read by Jeff Harding, 6hr 40min). **Christina Hardiment**

Paperback Fiction	Hardback Fiction	Paperback Non-fiction	Hardback Non-fiction
<b>1(→)</b> <i>It Ends With Us</i> Colleen Hoover <i>Simon &amp; Schuster £8.99</i>	<b>1</b> <i>The Ink Black Heart</i> (new) Robert Galbraith <i>Sphere £25</i>	<b>1</b> <i>Taste</i> Stanley Tucci (new) <i>Fig Tree £9.99</i>	<b>1</b> <i>One: Simple One-Pan Wonders</i> (new) Jamie Oliver Michael Joseph £28
<b>2</b> <i>A Flicker in the Dark</i> (new) Stacy Willingham <i>HarperCollins £8.99</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Babel</i> RF Kuang (new) <i>HarperVoyager £16.99</i>	<b>2(2)</b> <i>The Devil You Know: Encounters in Forensic Psychiatry</i> Gwen Adshead, Eileen Horne <i>Faber £8.99</i>	<b>2</b> <i>A Different Stage</i> (new) Gary Barlow <i>Penguin £30</i>
<b>3(→)</b> <i>The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo</i> Taylor Jenkins Reid <i>Simon &amp; Schuster £8.99</i>	<b>3</b> <i>Carrie Soto Is Back</i> (new) Taylor Jenkins Reid <i>Hutchinson Heinemann £16.99</i>	<b>3(1)</b> <i>Life Between the Tides</i> Adam Nicolson <i>William Collins £9.99</i>	<b>3</b> <i>How to Be Confident</i> (new) James Smith <i>HarperCollins £20</i>
<b>4(2)</b> <i>A Fatal Crossing</i> Tom Hindle <i>Penguin £8.99</i>	<b>4</b> <i>The Marriage Portrait</i> (new) Maggie O'Farrell <i>Tinder £25</i>	<b>4(3)</b> <i>Windswept &amp; Interesting</i> Billy Connolly <i>Two Roads £9.99</i>	<b>4(3)</b> <i>How to Live When You Could Be Dead</i> Deborah James <i>Vermilion £14.99</i>
<b>5(3)</b> <i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> Delia Owens <i>Corsair £9.99</i>	<b>5(1)</b> <i>The Rabbit Hutch</i> Tess Gunty <i>Oneworld £16.99</i>	<b>5(5)</b> <i>The Anglo-Saxons</i> Marc Morris <i>Penguin £10.99</i>	<b>5</b> <i>Real Life Recipes</i> (new) Tom Kerridge <i>Bloomsbury Absolute £26</i>
<b>6(→)</b> <i>The Paper Palace</i> Miranda Cowley Heller <i>Penguin £8.99</i>	<b>6</b> <i>Wolfsong: Green Creek</i> (new) TJ Klune <i>Tor £18.99</i>	<b>6(4)</b> <i>This Much Is True</i> Miriam Margolyes <i>John Murray £9.99</i>	<b>6</b> <i>And Finally: Matters of Life and Death</i> Henry Marsh <i>Jonathan Cape £16.99</i>
<b>7(→)</b> <i>Beautiful World, Where Are You</i> Sally Rooney <i>Faber £8.99</i>	<b>7</b> <i>Act of Oblivion</i> (new) Robert Harris <i>Hutchinson Heinemann £22</i>	<b>7(6)</b> <i>Atomic Habits</i> James Clear <i>Random House Business £16.99</i>	<b>7(1)</b> <i>Deliciously Ella: How to Go Plant-Based</i> Ella Mills <i>Yellow Kite £26</i>
<b>8(1)</b> <i>Love on the Brain</i> Ali Hazelwood <i>Sphere £8.99</i>	<b>8</b> <i>The Rising Tide</i> (new) Ann Cleeves <i>Macmillan £20</i>	<b>8</b> <i>Helgoland</i> (new) Carlo Rovelli <i>Penguin £10.99</i>	<b>8(5)</b> <i>Jane's Patisserie Celebrate!</i> Jane Dunn <i>Ebury £20</i>
<b>9(7)</b> <i>The Man Who Died Twice</i> Richard Osman <i>Penguin £8.99</i>	<b>9</b> <i>Belladonna Adalyn Grace</i> (new) Hodder & Stoughton £16.99	<b>9(8)</b> <i>Surrounded by Idiots</i> Thomas Erikson <i>Vermilion £10.99</i>	<b>9</b> <i>The Last Colony</i> (new) Philippe Sands <i>Weidenfeld &amp; Nicolson £16.99</i>
<b>10(4)</b> <i>How to Kill Your Family</i> Bella Mackie <i>Borough £8.99</i>	<b>10</b> <i>Before Your Memory Fades</i> (new) Toshikazu Kawaguchi <i>Picador £12.99</i>	<b>10(9)</b> <i>Prisoners of Geography</i> Tim Marshall <i>Elliott &amp; Thompson £9.99</i>	<b>10</b> <i>My First Meals</i> (new) Grace Mortimer <i>HQ £20</i>

Waterstones

THE NUMBER IN PARENTHESSES REPRESENTS CHART POSITIONS LAST WEEK. DATA SUPPLIED BY WATERSTONES FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 3

## children's book of the week

**Alex O'Connell on the best campus tales for nervous freshers**



**Something Certain, Maybe** (16+) by Sara Barnard PanMacmillan, 336pp; £7.99

With most students moving into their new digs next weekend, you might think this

freshers story from the YA Book prizewinner and author of *Beautiful Broken Things* Sara Barnard, right, is out at just the right time. I began it thinking: "I must hand this to a girl I know who is starting college next week." I ended it feeling that with dreary storyline and embarrassing dialogue this was not the novel a fledgling student needed. But then *Something Certain, Maybe* is not really a novel, although it does have the semblance of a plot about a girl, Rosie, who starts at the University of East Anglia. It's more of a self-help book for the very nervous.



The story? Rosie leaves her home in Brighton to study pharmacy in Norfolk (she wants the certainty of a vocational degree, she says endlessly to anyone who asks). She has left behind her troubled friend Suze and her mum, who misses her, but is brave. Her bestie, Caddy, is at another university, seemingly having more fun. Then there are her flatmates: posh Freddie, barbed Rika (the Sebastian Flyte of this novel? If only) and porous Dawn. They are snuffy about Rosie's packed science timetable, naming her the Enigma because she's never at home.

Enter Jade, a fellow scientist who is not a fresher. She's a lesbian. Hooray, because Rosie is bi and she gives our girl her first sexual experience, told with all the passion of a trip to the launderette.

So where's the jeopardy? Oh, here! Should Rosie commit to a flat in her second year with her iffy housemates? Is she moving apart from her old friends from home? And why does her mum keep having dizzy spells?

With the best will, it's hard to care. Instead, try the very funny *Freshers* by Tom Ellen and Lucy Ivison, Donna Tartt's wonderfully dark *The Secret History* and David Lodge's brilliant *The Campus Trilogy*, a comic take on a fictional university.

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# tv & radio

This week's schedules will be subject to change  
Full seven-day listings & previews

## Queen Elizabeth II

As Saturday Review went to press, the announcement came through that Her Majesty the Queen had died. Inevitably, this would mean extensive changes to this week's TV schedules.

Official details were not available at the time of writing, but we are likely to see further round-the-clock live news coverage along with archive and pre-recorded themed programmes as the nation continues to pay its respects. Some primetime programmes will probably be dropped.

That may affect major series such as BBC1's much-anticipated *Frozen Planet II*, narrated by David Attenborough, which takes us on a tour through Earth's icy regions. It remains to be seen whether broadcasters will move two of the biggest shows of the autumn: Tuesday's *The Great British Bake Off* (Channel 4) or next Saturday's *Strictly Come Dancing* (BBC1).

For the most up-to-date TV schedules see our daily TV guide in T2 and online at [thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner](http://thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner)



## Best of the rest

### Frozen Planet II

**Sun, BBC1, 8pm**

The first *Frozen Planet*, 11 years ago, examined life in the poles, but part two extends the scope to all Earth's frozen habitats: the Pallas's cat in Mongolia; a tiger in Russian forests; and eagles hunting in the Alps. This is a series of awesome beauty.



the name of the game inside the nation's most famous tent.

### My Grandparents' War

**Thu, Channel 4, 9pm**

Styled a bit like a war-themed *Who Do You Think You Are?*, this returning series begins with the *Game of Thrones* actor Kit Harington finding out more about his grandfather's hidden life as a spy alongside Ian Fleming and Kim Philby.

### All Creatures Great and Small

**Thu, Channel 5, 9pm**

It is 1939 and the winds of war

### The Great British Bake Off

**Tue, Channel 4, 8pm**

Paul Hollywood and co return for the loveable, irreverent culinary long-runner and, for the first episode, sponge is

are blowing, but James Herriot (Nicholas Ralph) is beaming from ear to ear on the eve of his wedding to Helen (Rachel Shenton, left with Ralph) as we return to Yorkshire for series three of this charming reboot. Watch and escape to a world of drystone walls, brown ale and bovine tuberculosis.

### The Grand Tour: A Scandi Flick

**Fri, Amazon**

In a freezing new *Grand Tour* special, Clarkson, May and Hammond skid their rally cars from Norway to the Russian border by way of the odd disused submarine base. JJ

### The best films

#### Tenet (12, 2020)

**Amazon**

You may find Christopher Nolan's time-slipping spy blockbuster convoluted, brilliantly mind-bending or possibly both.

#### The 39 Steps (U, 1935)

**Today, BBC2, 1.10pm**

Alfred Hitchcock does John Buchan for what's still a terrific romantic yarn starring Madeleine Carroll and Robert Donat, right. Hitchcock's

*The Lady Vanishes* (1938) follows at 2.35pm.

#### Close Encounters of the Third Kind (PG, 1977)

**Sun, Channel 5, 3.10pm**

Spend the afternoon with Richard Dreyfuss's unravelling UFO obsessive in Steven Spielberg's dazzling epic.

#### A Beautiful Day in the Neighbourhood (PG, 2019)

**Mon, Film4, 9pm**

Tom Hanks plays the US children's presenter Fred Rogers, Matthew Rhys the journo whose cynicism crumbles before him. JJ

## Radio choice

### In Our Time

**Thu, Radio 4, 9am**

"And now on Radio 4 it's *In Our Time* with Melvyn Bragg" – these are among the most welcome words in radio. Bragg is back from his summer break with more searching examinations of a fantastically diverse array of subjects discussed by a panel chosen simply because they are the foremost experts in their field.

Another rule of the programme – one that ensures that the contributors do not get an occasionally grumpy intervention from the presenter – is that it aims to be never knowingly relevant. That may be tricky to stick to in these troubled times when the series begins with George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

The guests are Lisa Mullen, a Cambridge lecturer; John Bowen, an English professor at the University of York; and David Dwan of Hertford College, Oxford.

More than 900 editions are available on BBC Sounds, with discussions on such subjects as Mary Magdalene, the novel *Tristram Shandy* and the moon as a subject for scientific study and poetic inspiration. Another amiable feature of this programme is the post-broadcast "bonus material" on the podcast where the guests reflect on things they perhaps should have said (or been asked) before they are offered a cup of something hot from the producer. They always deserve it.

**Ben Dowell**

## Podcast choice

### The Church of Social Justice

The journalist Helen Lewis's Radio 4 programme asks whether "wokeness" is a religion. It has its fanatics, its dogmas and its grand inquisitors. Genuine insight into the culture wars is rare, but Lewis provides some here. **James Marriott**

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# Saturday 10 | Viewing guide

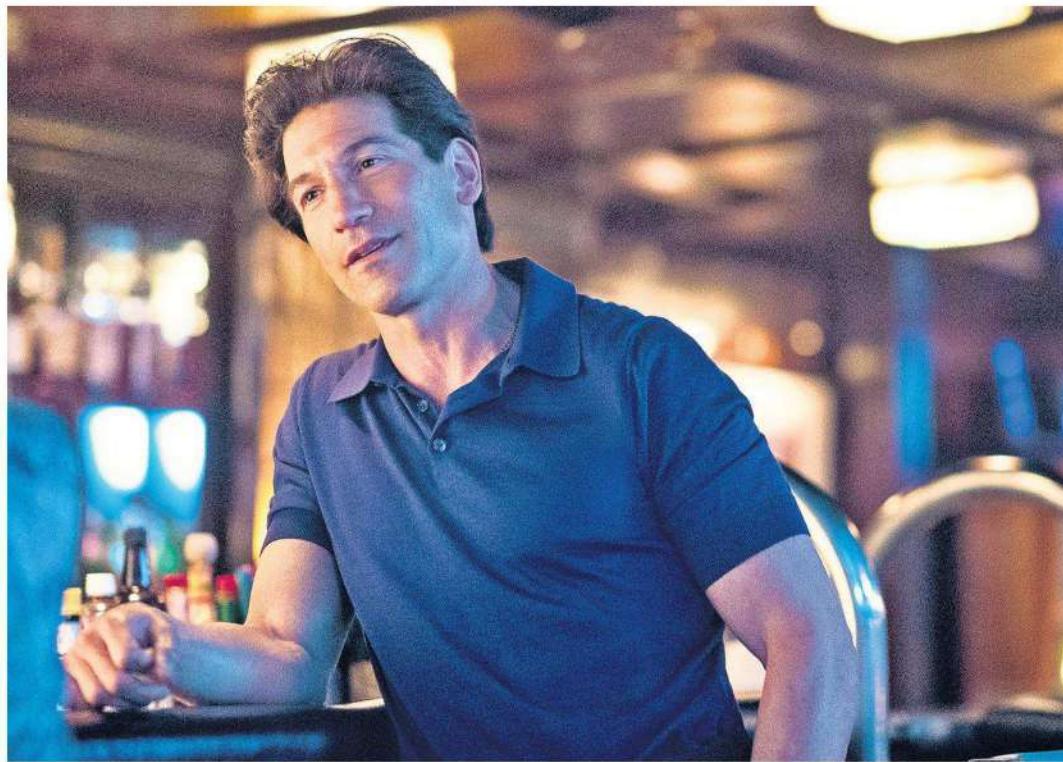
## Critic's choice American Gigolo

Paramount+

A reboot of Richard Gere's turn as Julian Kaye, the sex worker whose life catering for the sexual needs of an array of rich LA women is upended when he is framed for murder, might feel like a step too far. In 1980 Gere had the looks, the charm and also a noteworthy scene when he was in a state of undress, and the classic movie launched him as a superstar. The producers of this series make a good start by casting in the Gere role Jon Bernthal, right, an excellent actor fresh from stealing the show in David Simons's *We Own This City*. Overall, though, the Gere change means this is less fun and glossy. Yes, we open with a montage that includes Blondie's *Call Me* (written for the original film), but we meet our man in 2021, tattooed, sporting a handlebar moustache, and nearing the end of a

15-year prison sentence for the murder of a young woman he was sleeping with. Changes to social and ethical mores – and the possible spectre of Jeffrey Epstein – also hang over this in a fresh backstory, told in flashbacks, that finds Julian as a boy being groomed by a shadowy woman called the Queen, his feckless mother effectively pimping him from her down-at-heels trailer. Helping Julian get to the truth in the present is his former lover Michelle Stratton (Gretchen Mol) and Detective Sunday, with Rosie O'Donnell on fabulous kick-ass form as the cop who put our hero behind bars and also got him exonerated after the real killer confessed. Schlocky, often silly, it's still propulsive and absorbing enough for a happy binge.

Ben Dowell



## Ukraine's Musical Freedom Fighters

BBC2, 6.10pm

In the midst of war, more than 75 of the Ukraine's finest musicians came together to form the Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra. Some of their family members are on the front line, and many have fled their homeland since the war began. Clive Myrie follows the individual stories of the musicians, from practice, often alone in Ukraine, to coming together for their first rehearsal as an orchestra in Warsaw for their inaugural concert and before a tour of Europe and the USA, including a performance at the BBC Proms in July. BD

## Last Night of the Proms

BBC2, 7.10pm/BBC1, 9pm

For years the BBC has been as proud of the Proms season as it has felt uncomfortable about the flag-waving Last Night. One senses that many executives would be happy to do away with the pomp and circumstance, with EU flags now providing more irritating headlines. This evening's first half features music by Verdi, Coleridge-Taylor, Wagner and Grieg and the rarely performed *Snöfrid* by Sibelius, with readings from the actress Harriet Walter. Katie Derham presents, alongside Robert Rinder and other "special guests". BD

## Brad & Angelina: The Rise and Fall of a Hollywood Marriage

Channel 5, 9pm

If you have followed even some of the story of Hollywood's former golden couple, there probably isn't much to learn in this workmanlike account of love gained, lost and then fought in the courts. It's still a dramatic tale. It's also interesting that one of the pair's abiding characteristics is that they don't share everything about their lives on Twitter and TikTok, creating a mystique that is perhaps missing from other people now in the public eye. BD

## State of Happiness

BBC4, 9pm/9.45pm

The final double bill of this quietly absorbing Norwegian drama opens in lovely fashion with Anna emerging from the bath to be fed crisps by Jonathan, who muses on whether their unborn child will be a boy or a girl and whether they will enjoy baseball. It's the kind of tender scene that can presage disaster, and sure enough that arrives when the Alexander Kielland platform capsizes with more than 200 people on board. Another reason this shouldn't come as a surprise is that health and safety shortcuts have been an abiding theme of the second series, which ends in plangent and dramatic style. BD

## Films of the day

### Mission: Impossible III (12, 2006)

Channel 4, 10pm

The third *Mission: Impossible* is pretty much indistinguishable from the first two: the same globetrotting narrative; the same slickly executed action set pieces; the same energetic, intense performances from Tom Cruise. Indistinguishable but for one vital element: Philip Seymour Hoffman. As the sadistic arms dealer who brings Ethan Hunt out of retirement by kidnapping his young protégé, he oozes gleeful malice. Forget about scene-stealing – Hoffman, who died in 2014, walks away with the entire movie in his back pocket. JJ Abrams directs; the supporting cast includes Simon Pegg, Billy Crudup and Michelle Monaghan. (125min)

Wendy Ide



## Regional programmes

- BBC1 Wales As BBC1 except: 1.15pm Nigel Slater's Simple Cooking. Preparing spicy dishes with a cool accompaniment (r) 1.35pm FILM *The Secret Life of Pets 2* (2019) Animated sequel featuring the voice of Patton Oswalt 3.00 Our Lives. The work of Northern Ireland's only female rat catcher (r) 3.30-4.00 Question of Sport. A special edition celebrating 50 Years of Pride in the United Kingdom (r)
- BBC2 Wales As BBC2 except: 9.00-10.00pm Wales: Music Nation with Huw Stephens. Part one of two. The fascinating history of Welsh music
- BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 except: 4.00pm-5.30pm Sportscene Results 11.55 Sportscene: Premiership Highlights (r) 12.55am FILM *The Keeper* (2018) The true story of Bert Trautmann, the German PoW who became a footballing legend for Manchester City. Biopic starring David Kross and Freya Mavor 2.45 Weather for the Week Ahead 2.50-6.00 BBC News
- STV As ITV except: 1.25-4.00pm Live STV Racing. From Doncaster. Coverage from Doncaster, Leopardstown and Chester 3.00-4.15am Unwind with STV
- BBC Scotland 7.00pm The Seven 715 The Edit 7.30 Sportscene: Premiership Highlights 8.30 The Forest. Those who live and work in Galloway Forest Park (r)

- 9.00 Two Doors Down (r) 9.30 Scot Squad (r) 10.00 FILM *True North* (2007) Drama 11.30-Midnight The Bhanga Boss: The Story of DJ Vips (r)
- 5AC 6.00am Cyw: Ollobobs (r) 6.05 Shwshaswyn (r) 6.15 Jen a Jim a'r Cywiadur (r) 6.30 Stiw (r) 6.40 Cymraeglaubachau (r) 6.50 Gwdihw (r) 7.05 Wibi Sochyn y Mochyn (r) 7.15 Byd Tad-Cu (r) 7.30 Patroù Pawennau (r) 7.45 Awyr Iach (r) 8.00 Spynny Bob Pantsgwâr (r) 8.15 Seligo (r) 8.20 Boom! (r) 8.30 Dreiglau: Marchogion Berc (r) 8.55 Cath-Od (r) 9.05 Dennis a Dannedd (r) 9.15 Gwrach y Rhblyn (r) 9.35 Ar Goll yn Oz (r) 10.00 Hen Dy Newydd (r) 11.00 Dim Byd i'w Wisgo (r) 11.30 Garddio a Mwy (r) 12.00 Cefn Gwlad (r) 12.30pm Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor y Byd 2022 (r) 1.00 Pysgod i Bawb (r) 1.30 Cwprwedd Epic Chris (r) 2.00 Walau'n Siarad (r) 3.00 Cymry a Gynfas (r) 3.30 Y Fets (r) 4.30 Trysorau Cymu: Tir, Tai a Cyfrinachau (r) 5.00 Cynfefin Byr (r) 5.15 Adre (r) 5.45 Triathlon Para y Byd, Aberlawe 6.15 Yr Anialwch (r) 7.15 News 7.30 Lorient 2022 (r) 8.30 Noson Lawen (r) 9.30 Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor y Byd 2022 10.00 Priodas Pum Mill (r) 11.00-11.35 Ein Hail Lais (r) (r) repeat (SL) In-vision signing

## Catch up

### Better Things iPlayer

The fifth and final series of Pamela Adlon's acclaimed sitcom about the struggles of Sam Fox, a divorced mother and jobbing actress, has just finished, but all five are available on iPlayer. It started out as a collaboration between Adlon and Louis CK (she was one of the

best things about his sitcom *Louie*), but over the seasons that followed Adlon, below, severed all ties with the disgraced comedian and made the series her own. *Better Things* follows her anarchic efforts to raise her three headstrong daughters – drama queen Max, acerbic Frankie and sensitive Duke – and maintain her acting career. It's sharp, moving and very funny; the episodes, at 25 minutes, are short and sweet; and Adlon is terrific, as is Celia Imrie, who plays Sam's mum. Joe Clay

### The Keeper (15, 2018) BBC1, 11.55pm

The extraordinary true story of the German footballer Bert Trautmann, from prisoner of war to star goalkeeper for Manchester City, gets a warm if corny retelling in Marcus H Rosenmüller's drama. The on-field action is decently handled, as is Trautmann's initial ostracism for his medal-winning deeds in the Second World War. Combining the PoW movie with the football flick also allows the German director to insert double the clichés, from the sadistic camp sergeant to the talent-spotting scene, to the romance with the coach's daughter (Freya Mavor). Trautmann is portrayed by David Kross, above, the German actor who played the teenager seduced by Kate Winslet in *The Reader*. (119min) Ed Potton

**Also available online and on tablet**

Digital subscribers can now use our interactive seven-day guide with comprehensive listings of all TV channels  
[thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner](http://thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner)

**Saturday 10****BBC1**

**6.00am Breakfast** **10.00 Saturday Kitchen** Mary Berry: Cook & Share (r) **12.00 Football Focus** **1.00pm BBC News**; Weather **1.15 Bargain Hunt** (r) **2.10 Money for Nothing** (r) **2.40 FILM The Secret Life of Pets 2** (U, 2019) Animated sequel featuring the voice of Patton Oswalt **4.00 Final Score**. Round-up of football results **5.30 Superman & Lois**. Clark and Lois disagree on the best way to figure out whether Ally Allston went to the Inverse World. John Henry makes a surprising discovery, and Lois sets out to track Lucy down **6.10 BBC News** **6.25 BBC Regional News**; Weather **6.35 The Hit List**. Marvin and Rochelle Humes present the music quiz, with contestants from North Yorkshire, Blackpool and Livingston trying to identify chart hits. Last in the series



Presenter Katie Derham (9pm)

**7.20 Pointless Celebrities Quiz** hosted by Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman, featuring Nick Hewer, Katya Jones, Aimee Fuller, Katharine Merry, Michael Whitehall, Alice Dearing, Tom Stade and Athena Kugblenu

**8.10 Casualty** The hospital is overrun with drunken football fans during a derby day, with patients including a mounted police officer who has been stabbed and managed to make it to the hospital on his horse

**9.00 Last Night of the Proms**

Katie Derham presents further live coverage from the Royal Albert Hall of the climax of the classical music festival, with Dalia Stasevska conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra. **See Viewing Guide**

**10.15 BBC News****10.30 Weather**

**10.35 Match of the Day** Highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester City v Tottenham Hotspur and Fulham v Chelsea. Plus, Bournemouth v Brighton & Hove Albion, Leicester City v Aston Villa and Liverpool v Wolverhampton Wanderers

**11.55 FILM The Keeper** (15, 2018) The true story of Bert Trautmann, the German PoW who became a footballing legend for Manchester City. Biopic starring David Kross, Freya Mavor and John Henshaw. **See Film Choice**

**1.45am Weather for the Week Ahead** **1.50 BBC News**. The latest updates

**BBC2**

**6.35am Love Monster** (r) **6.40 Go Jetters** (r) **6.55 Go Jetters** (r) **7.05 Hey Duggee** (r) **7.15 Hey Duggee** (r) **7.20 Shaun the Sheep** (r) **7.30 Dennis & Gnasher Unleashed!** (r) **7.45 Ninja Express** (r) **7.55 The Deep** (r) **8.20 Odd Squad** (r) **8.30 One Zoo Three** (r) **8.55 Newsround** **9.00 Deadly Pole to Pole** (r) **10.00 Animal Super Parents** (r) **11.00 12 Puppies and Us** (r) **12.00 Rick Stein's Spain** (r) **1.00pm The Best Dishes Ever** (r) **1.10 FILM The 39 Steps** (U, 1935) (b/w) **2.35 FILM The Lady Vanishes** (U, 1938) Mystery (b/w) **4.10 All That Glitters**: Britain's Next Jewellery Star (r) **5.10 Richard Osman's House of Games** **5.40 Unbeatable** **6.10 Ukraine's Musical Freedom** Fighters with Clive Myrie. Meeting Ukrainian musicians creating an orchestra. **See Viewing Guide**



Cher at the BBC (9pm)

**7.10 Last Night of the Proms**

Katie Derham presents live coverage from the Royal Albert Hall of the climax of the classical music festival, with Dalia Stasevska conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra, with the soprano Lise Davidsen and the cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason joining them for a mix of party pieces and lesser-known works. This first half of the night's celebrations features music by Verdi, Coleridge-Taylor, Wagner and Grieg, and the rarely performed *Snofrid* by Sibelius. **See Viewing Guide**

**9.00 Cher at the BBC** Archive footage of the singer's performances on BBC programmes, including *Believe and Walking in Memphis*, as well as her first UK chart-topper *I Got You Babe*, recorded with ex-husband and singing partner Sonny Bono (r)

**10.00 Viva La Diva: The Queens of Pop** Ana Matronic explores the key elements that have shaped the identities and sounds of pop superstars Beyoncé, Cher, Grace Jones, Madonna and Mariah Carey (r)

**11.00 Mariah Carey at the BBC** A selection of archive appearances on the BBC by the singer, including performances of *Vision of Love*, *Honey, Shake it Off*, *Open Arms*, *Hero* and *We Belong Together* (r)

**12.00 Cricket: Today at the Test**. England v South Africa (r) **1.00am Golf**: PGA Championship. Highlights of day three of one of the DP World Tour's most prestigious events, held at Wentworth in Surrey **2.00-2.30 Cricket**: Women's T20 Highlights

**ITV**

**6.00am CITV** **8.25 ITV News** **8.30 Garraway's Good Stuff** **9.25 James Martin's Saturday Morning** **11.35 James Martin's Great British Adventure** (r) **12.35pm Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make** (r) **1.10 ITV News**: Weather **1.25 Live ITV Racing**: From Doncaster. Ed Chamberlin presents coverage from Doncaster, including feature race the **3.33 St Leger**. Plus, the **3.10 Irish Champion Stakes** from Leopardstown and action from Chester **4.00 Celebrity Lingo**. Quiz show hosted by RuPaul in which famous faces use their powers of deduction (r) **5.00 ITV News**; Weather **5.20 Regional News**; Weather **5.30 Ninja Warrior UK**: Race for Glory. New series. Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara return with the obstacle course challenge



The Voice UK continues (8pm)

**6.30 The Masked Dancer** Joel Dommett hosts as six more disguised celebrities take to the stage, with the panel trying to identify Pearly King, Onomatopoeia, Pig, Sea Slug, Cactus and Tomato Sauce

**8.00 The Voice UK** Emma Willis hosts the spinning-chair singing contest, with Anne-Marie, Olly Murs, Tom Jones and Will.i.am once again selecting their teams through blind auditions, where looks play no part in the selection process and each singer is chosen on vocal ability alone

**9.30 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?** Jeremy Clarkson hosts the big money quiz, welcoming more winners from new sister show *Fastest Finger First* for the chance to win a life-changing one million pounds

**10.25 ITV News**

**10.40 The Jonathan Ross Show** With David Attenborough, Sheridan Smith, Kevin Hart, Michael Caine and Ed Sheeran (r)

**11.10 English Football League Highlights** The latest fixtures, including Sheffield United v Rotherham United at Bramall Lane and Wigan Athletic v Blackburn Rovers at DW Stadium in the Championship

**1.05am Teleshopping** **3.00 Unwind** with **IVT** **4.15 Love Your Weekend** with Alan Titchmarsh. Alan is joined by actress Eileen Atkins and *Coronation Street* star William Roache, while Peter Phillips talks about the sporting event of the summer. (r) (SL)

**Channel 4**

**6.15am The King of Queens** (r) **6.40 The King of Queens** (r) **7.05 Frasier** (r) **7.35 Frasier** (r) **8.00 Frasier** (r) **8.30 The Big Bang Theory** (r) **9.00 The Big Bang Theory** (r) **9.55 The Simpsons** (r) **10.30 The Simpsons** (r) **11.00 The Simpsons** (r) **11.30 Jamie Oliver: Together**. A vegetarian curry (r) **12.30pm Live Betfred Super League Rugby**. All the action from the second eliminator (Kick-off 12.30), as the teams that finished fourth and fifth during the regular season contest a place in the semi-finals **3.15 A Place in the Sun** (r) **4.00 Escape to the Château** (r) **5.00 Channel 4 News**. Including sport and weather **5.30 Finding the Cornish Dream**. A Redruth estate agent has a Grade II listed granite cottage on her books. Last in the series



Griff Rhys Jones in Canada (9pm)

**6.30 Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights** Action from the battle for pole position in the 16th round of the season, held at Autodromo Nazionale di Monza, one of the fastest tracks on the calendar

**8.00 Britain by Beach** Anita Rani presents a guide to the coastline of Wales, beginning by exploring the legends of Harlech Castle, an infamous site of rebellion and uprising. Last in the series

**9.00 Griff's Canadian Adventure** Griff explores the prairies and vast sprawling plains of the Saskatchewan and Alberta provinces, that hide a diversity of riches, from ancient buffalo herds to dinosaur fossils (5/6)

**10.00 FILM Mission: Impossible III** (12, 2006) Former secret agent Ethan Hunt is called out of retirement when an ex-trainee is taken hostage by a ruthless arms dealer, but when the rescue operation goes wrong, the villain decides to target Hunt's fiancee. Action thriller sequel directed by JJ Abrams, starring Tom Cruise, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Michelle Monaghan, Ving Rhames and Simon Pegg. **See Film Choice**

**12.30am FILM Pitch Perfect 3** (12, 2017) Comedy sequel starring Anna Kendrick **2.05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA**. A steakhouse in Queens, New York (r) (SL) **2.55 Car SOS**. A 1997 Lotus Elise is restored (r) **3.45 Come Dine with Me** (r)

**Channel 5**

**6.00am Milkshake!** **10.00 The Smurfs** (r) **10.15 SpongeBob SquarePants** (r) **10.25 Entertainment News on 5** **10.35 Friends** (r) **11.10 Friends** (r) **11.45 Friends** (r) **12.15pm Friends** (r) **12.45 FILM Jesse Stone: Innocents Lost** (15, TVM, 2011) The police chief, now forced into retirement, continues his own investigation into the death of a teenage girl. Detective thriller sequel starring Tom Selleck and Kathy Baker **2.35 Holiday Homes in the Sun** (r) **3.30 Holiday Homes in the Sun**. Four traditional Catalan holiday homes (r) **4.30 The Greek Islands** with Bettany Hughes. The myths and stories of Greek gods and heroes (r) **5.55 5 News Weekend** **6.00 Cruising the Canary Islands** with Susan Calman. The comedian sets sail on a cruise aboard the *Regal Princess* (r)



Brad and Angelina (9pm)

**8.00 Princess Margaret & the Photographer: A Scandalous Marriage** A look at Princess Margaret's marriage to Antony Armstrong-Jones, who was the first non-aristocrat to marry into monarchy for 400 years (r)

**9.00 Brad & Angelina: The Rise & Fall of a Hollywood Marriage** The relationship between Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, exploring how a seemingly perfect love story became one of the most toxic feuds in Hollywood history. **See Viewing Guide**

**10.15 Most Shocking Celebrity Break Ups** A selection of the juiciest bust-ups in celeb history, including vintage feuds and modern beefs alike. From Bette Davis v Joan Crawford to "Wagatha Christie", the featured squabbles are brought to life by contributions from those involved, as well as eyewitnesses and some famous faces who just can't resist a gossip. With Louis Walsh, Bobby Norris, Anne Diamond, Melvin Odom and Nicola McLean (r)

**12.10am World's Funniest TV Ads** with Jason Manford (r) **1.05 The LeoVegas Live Casino Show** **3.05 What a Treat! Our Favourite Sweets** (r) **4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes** (r) (SL) **5.30 Peppa Pig** (r) (SL) **5.35 Paw Patrol** (r) (SL) **5.50 Fireman Sam** (r) (SL)

# Saturday 10 | Primetime digital guide

FV Freeview FS Freesat



## Naomi Watts

The actress stars as Ann Darrow in Peter Jackson's 2005 remake of King Kong  
**ITV2, 6.30pm**

## TalkTV

FV 237, FS 217, SKY 526, VIRGIN 627

**6.00am Cristo** Wake up to the news that matters to you  
**7.00 David Bull** A look at the biggest stories of the day  
**10.00 Peter Cardwell** The Westminster insider scours the latest news from Parliament, featuring exclusive interviews  
**1.00pm Trisha Goddard** The broadcaster takes a look through some of the week's leading stories and gives her two cents on the biggest social dilemmas making the news this week  
**4.00 Claudia Liza**  
**7.00 Saturday Night Talkaway with Kevin O'Sullivan** The host serves up three hours of fun featuring his unique take on the week's top stories, with celebrity guests  
**10.00-1.00am The James Whale Show** Expect bold opinions as the presenter reacts to the big stories of the day

## BBC3

FV 23, FS 179, SKY 117, VIRGIN 107

**7.00pm EastEnders**  
**7.30 EastEnders**  
**8.00 FILM Divergent (12, 2014)** A teenager in a strictly ordered future society discovers a conspiracy to wipe out a group of outsiders. Sci-fi adventure starring Shailene Woodley  
**10.10 Red Rose** The friends are being attacked on all fronts. As their understanding of this enigmatic danger evolves, so do their methods, while their resolve to survive is stronger than ever (7/8)  
**10.45 Red Rose** As the friends finally get close to the heart of Red Rose, they face a dilemma they could never have imagined (8/8)  
**11.25 Ladhood** Return of the comedy written by and starring Liam Williams (1/6)  
**11.50-12.15am Ladhood** Liam tries to win a promotion (2/6)

## BBC4

FV 9/24, FS 173, SKY 116, VIRGIN 108

**7.00pm Cricket: Today at the Test** England v South Africa. Action from day three of the series-concluding third Test, held at The Kia Oval  
**8.00 Golf: PGA Championship** Highlights of day three of one of the DP World Tour's most prestigious events, held at Wentworth in Surrey  
**9.00 State of Happiness The** Alexander Kielland platform capsizes with more than 200 people on board. In Norwegian and English. See Viewing Guide (7/8)  
**9.45 State of Happiness The** The rescue operation following the tragedy continues. See Viewing Guide (8/8)  
**10.30 The Last Battle of the Vikings** The influence of the Vikings in Scotland  
**11.30-12.15am The Great British Seaside Holiday: Timeshift** A celebration of the British seaside holiday experience

## More 4

FV 18, FS 124, SKY 136, VIRGIN 147

**6.55pm Matt Baker: Travels with Mum & Dad** The Bakers visit the Beamish Living Museum, where Matt gets a crash course in driving a 1900s tram (2/4)  
**8.00 Huge Homes with Hugh Dennis** Hugh visits a architect-owned modern mansion in London with fun at its heart (2/4)  
**9.00 24 Hours in A&E An** 85-year-old man is brought to St George's with a swollen hand after cutting his finger on some wire two weeks earlier (5/13)  
**10.00 24 Hours in A&E A** 51-year-old man who has fallen 20ft from a ladder while repairing his roof (7/13)  
**11.05-12.10am 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown** Sean Lock and Daisy May Cooper take on guest team captain Richard Ayoade and Ivo Graham (3/3)

## Sky Atlantic

SKY 108

**6.50pm The Sopranos** Tony is advised by his lawyer to spend time at one of his legitimate businesses – but inactivity takes its toll and Junior enjoys the company of a police officer's widow (11/13) (R)  
**7.55 The Sopranos** Pussy's loyalty to the Mob wavers and Tony's mistress puts pressure on him to continue their affair, while a domestic quarrel has a deadly outcome (12/13) (R)  
**9.00 Game of Thrones As** Westeros prepares for war, Robb Stark marches south to avenge his father, and Stannis Baratheon sets his sights on the Iron Throne (R)  
**10.05 Game of Thrones** Theon is reunited with his father on the Iron Islands, while Arya shares a secret with her new friend Gendry (R)  
**11.10-12.15am Game of Thrones (R)**

## Sky Documentaries

SKY 121, VIRGIN 278

**5.20pm FILM The Bee Gees: How Can You Mend a Broken Heart (12, 2020)** The history of the group, featuring contributions from surviving member Barry Gibb as well as archive interviews with his brothers Robin and Maurice  
**7.20 Music Box** A look at the meteoric career of the Australian entrepreneur Robert Stigwood, who transformed American cinema with Saturday Night Fever (5/6) (R)  
**9.00 The Last Movie Stars** The HBO profile of Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward continues (4/6)  
**10.05 Clint Eastwood: A Life in Film** Feature-length profile of the iconic actor (R)  
**11.45-1.45am 1972: Munich's Black September** Documentary exploring the events of the 1972 Munich massacre

## ITV2

FV 6, FS 113, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**6.30pm FILM King Kong (12, 2005)** Fantasy adventure remake with Naomi Watts and Jack Black  
**9.00 FILM 2 Fast 2 Furious (12, 2003)** A disgraced cop is given a chance to redeem himself by going undercover to bring a drug trafficker to justice. Thriller with Paul Walker and Tyrese Gibson  
**11.10 Family Guy** Lois tires of Peter's poor performances in the bedroom  
**11.40-12.10am Family Guy** The residents of Quahog become embroiled in a treasure hunt

## ITV3

FV 10, FS 115, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**7.00pm Midsomer Murders** Barnaby and Nelson uncover conflict between the local church and pagan traditions after a famous illusionist's show takes a tragic turn  
**9.00 Midsomer Murders** A sparkling wine launch ends in disaster when guests sampling the vintage start to collapse  
**11.00-1.10am Inspector Morse** Lewis and Morse pursue a former supergrass to Australia, where the detectives soon begin to miss the comforts of home (5/5)

## ITV4

FV 26, FS 117, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**7.00pm Silverstone Classic** Action from the classic car meet  
**8.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain** Highlights Action from the seventh stage, featuring a 175.9km route from West Bay to Ferndown  
**9.00 English Football League** Highlights The latest fixtures  
**11.00 Made in Britain** Examining how Maldon sea salt is made using traditional methods (2/11)  
**11.30-1.35am Rugby World Cup 7s 2022** The second day of the tournament in Cape Town (2/3)

## E4

FV 13, FS 122, SKY 135, VIRGIN 106

**6.20pm FILM Little Women (U, 2019)** The story of the March sisters – four young women, each determined to live life on her own terms. Historical drama starring Saoirse Ronan and Emma Watson  
**9.00 Celebrity Gogglebox** Shows appraised include *Changing Rooms* and *Skin A&E* (9/10)  
**10.00 Gogglebox** The households' opinions on BBC News coverage of Partygate, and *Made in Chelsea*  
**11.05-12.10am Gogglebox** The best moments from 2021's *Gogglebox*

## Dave

FV 19, FS 157, SKY 111

**6.40pm Would I Lie to You?** With Huw Edwards, Sarah Millican, Bradley Walsh and Josie Lawrence  
**7.20 Would I Lie to You? With Jack Whitehall**, Emily Maitlis, Jim Carter and Armando Iannucci taking part  
**8.00 Not Going Out Lucy** accidentally runs over a pet rabbit  
**8.40 Not Going Out**  
**9.20 Not Going Out**  
**10.00 QI** Stephen Fry hosts  
**10.40 Would I Lie to You?**  
**11.20 Would I Lie to You?**  
**12.00-1.00am QI XL**

## Drama

FV 20, FS 158, SKY 143, VIRGIN 130

**6.00pm The Brokenwood Mysteries** Investigating the death of a woman struck by an arrow  
**8.00 Shakespeare & Hathaway: Private Investigators** Lu and Frank must clear the Queen's name  
**9.00 The Missing** A family holiday to France ends in tragedy. Drama starring James Nesbitt  
**10.20 The Missing** Suspicion falls on a known paedophile  
**11.40-1.50am Silent Witness A** woman is killed and the evidence leads the team to a cosmetic clinic

## Yesterday

FV 27, FS 159, SKY 155, VIRGIN 129

**7.00pm Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics** Derek thinks a 29,000-mile Ford Capri should be kept original (4/6)  
**8.00 Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics** Derek picks out a solid-looking 1969 MGB (5/6)  
**9.00 Bangers & Cash: Restoring Classics** A 1979 Lotus Esprit S3  
**10.00 One Foot in the Grave**  
**10.40 One Foot in the Grave**  
**11.20 One Foot in the Grave**  
**12.00-1.00am Bangers and Cash A** rare 1980s Sierra Cosworth (2/10)

## PBS America

FV 84, FS 155, SKY 174, VIRGIN 273

**6.55pm The American Führer** The story of a German emigrant who styled himself as Hitler's deputy in 1930s America  
**7.55 Attack of the Zeppelins** The story of a First World War aerial bombing campaign on London  
**9.00 Truk Lagoon: Remains of War** The island of Truk  
**10.00 Spying on Hitler's Army: The Secret Recordings**  
**11.00 The American Führer**  
**12.00-1.05am Attack of the Zeppelins**

## Smithsonian

FV 57, FS 175, SKY 171, VIRGIN 276

**7.00pm Private Lives of the Windsors** Louis Mountbatten's mentorship of Prince Charles  
**8.00 Private Lives of the Windsors** Memories of Princess Margaret Elizabeth, the Queen Mother  
**10.00 Henry VIII and the King's Men** looking at Henry VIII through the men who exploited him  
**11.00 Henry VIII and the King's Men** With Tracy Borman  
**12.00-1.00am Henry VIII and the King's Men Documentary**

## Sky Arts

FV 11, FS 147, SKY 130, VIRGIN 165

**7.00pm Video Killed the Radio Star** A look at some of Beyoncé's most influential music videos  
**7.30 Video Killed the Radio Star**  
**8.00 Tina Turner: Live in Barcelona** A 1990 performance by the singer at the Olympic Stadium  
**10.10 Video Killed the Radio Star** The secrets and ideas behind Tina Turner's most famous music videos  
**10.40 Classic Albums**  
**11.40-1.20am FILM Rope (PG, 1948)** Hitchcock thriller, with Farley Granger and James Stewart

## Sky History

SKY 123, VIRGIN 270

**7.00pm 9/11 Pentagon Special** Events at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001  
**8.00 9/11: The Final Minutes of Flight 93** The fate of United Airlines Flight 93, which crashed in rural Pennsylvania in 2001  
**9.00 9/11 Conspiracies: Fact or Fiction** Theories that cloud the memory of the events of September 2001  
**11.00 Kings of Pain** Adam and Caveman Rob get bitten by a lizard  
**12.00-1.00am Forged in Fire**

## Sky Max

SKY 113, VIRGIN 122

**7.00pm NCIS: Los Angeles** The team helps a naval intelligence officer locate a colleague  
**8.00 A League of Their Own** With Aaron Ramsdale, Michael Sheen, Alex Brooker and Emily Atack  
**9.00 Strike Back: Vendetta** Mac attends therapy sessions after leaving the army (6/10)  
**10.00 Banshee** Siobhan and Emmett hit trouble when they transfer Clayton Littlejohn (4/10)  
**11.05 Brassic** With Joseph Gilgun  
**12.05-1.00am The Force**

## Discovery

SKY 125, VIRGIN 250

**7.00pm Gold Rush**  
**8.00 Gold Rush: Dave Turin's Lost Mine** Examining abandoned mines  
**9.00 How the Universe Works** Results make determining the age of the universe difficult  
**10.00 Expedition Unknown**  
**11.00 UFO Witness**  
**12.00-1.00am Mountain Monsters**

## Nat Geographic

SKY 129, VIRGIN 266, BT 351

**6.30pm 9/11: One Day In America**  
**8.00 9/11: One Day In America** Personal stories of survivors who made it out of the south tower  
**9.00 9/11: One Day In America**  
**10.00 9/11: One Day In America**  
**11.00 9/11: One Day In America**  
**12.00-1.00am 9/11: One Day In America** A miraculous rescue story

## Sky Comedy

SKY 114, VIRGIN 135, BT 346

**7.00pm The Office (US) (1/6)**  
**7.30 The Office (US) (2/6)**  
**8.00 The Office (US) (3/6)**  
**8.30 The Office (US) (4/6)**  
**9.00 Curb Your Enthusiasm**  
**10.15 Gary Gulman: The Great Depresh** Stand-up performance  
**11.30-12.30am The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon** Chat show

## Comedy Central

SKY 112, VIRGIN 181, BT 344

**5.30pm FILM Look Who's Talking (12, 1989)** Starring Kirstie Alley  
**7.20 FILM Look Who's Talking Too (PG, 1990)** Starring John Travolta  
**9.00 FILM Hot Shots! Part Deux (PG, 1993)** Spoof action movie  
**10.40 Greatest Movie Blunders**  
**11.40-12.10am The Ren & Stimpy Show** The boys work as salesmen

## Gold

SKY 110, VIRGIN 124

**6.40pm Only Fools and Horses**  
**7.20 Only Fools and Horses** The Trotters lose their millions. Christmas special from 2001  
**9.00 Only Fools and Horses** Christmas special from 1987. Del goes in search of treasure  
**10.20 All Round to Mrs Brown's**  
**11.35-12.15am Newark**, Newark

## W

FV 25, FS 156, SKY 132

**7.00pm My Family**  
**7.40 My Family**  
**8.20 My Family**  
**9.00 Gavin & Stacey**  
**9.40 Gavin & Stacey**  
**10.20 Gavin & Stacey**  
**11.00 Dating With My Mates**  
**12.00-1.00am Louis Theroux: Extreme Love: Dementia**



**5.15am Live Test Cricket: England v South Africa** Coverage of day three of the series-concluding third Test, held at The Kia Oval  
**6.45pm Live Women's International T20 Cricket: England v India** Coverage of the first match of the series at Seat Unique Riverside in Chester-le-Street  
**7.30-9.45 Live Serie A** An Italian top-flight match (Kick-off 5.20). From Meadow Lane  
**10.00-12.00 Live Canadian Premier League: Forge FC v Cavalry FC** (Kick-off 10.00)  
**1.00am Live UFC Preliminary bouts**  
**3.00-7.00am Live UFC:**  
**Khamzat Chimaev v Nate Diaz**

## Sky Cricket

SKY 404, VIRGIN 514

**11.30-3.00pm Live Premier League: Fulham v Chelsea** (Kick-off 12.30)  
**5.00 Live Vanarama National League: Notts County v Bromley** (Kick-off 5.20). From Meadow Lane  
**7.30-9.45 Live Serie A** An Italian top-flight match (Kick-off 5.20). From Meadow Lane  
**10.00-12.00 Live Canadian Premier League: Forge FC v Cavalry FC** (Kick-off 10.00)  
**1.00am Live UFC Preliminary bouts**  
**3.00-7.00am Live UFC:**  
**Khamzat Chimaev v Nate Diaz**

## BT Sport 2

SKY 414, VIRGIN 528, BT 431

**10.00-1.00pm Live AFL**  
**2.30 Live Gallagher Premiership**  
**Rugby Union: Exeter Chiefs v Leicester Tigers** (Kick-off 3.00)  
**5.15-7.00 Live Serie A**  
**7.30 Peter Crouch Travel Fan**  
**8.00 Live Ligue 1: Marseille v Lille** (Kick-off 8.00)  
**10.00 WWE Friday Night SmackDown**  
**11.30-3.45am Live Hero CPL**  
**5.00-1.45pm Live One Day International Cricket: Australia v New Zealand** The third ODI

## Film guide

### Film4

FV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428

#### 11.00am Zoo (PG, 2017)

Family drama starring Toby Jones and Penelope Wilton  
12.55pm Little Monsters (12, 1989) Comedy starring Fred Savage and Howie Mandel

2.45 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (PG, 1992) Comedy sequel starring Macaulay Culkin and Joe Pesci

#### 5.05 Junior (PG, 1994)

Comedy starring Arnold Schwarzenegger

7.15 Johnny English Strikes Again (12, 2018) Spy comedy starring Rowan Atkinson

9.00 The Girl in the Spider's Web (15, 2018) Thriller starring Claire Foy

11.15-1.20am The Last Witch Hunter (12, 2015) Fantasy adventure starring Vin Diesel

### Talking Pictures TV

FV 82 FS 306 SKY 328 VIRGIN 445

6.00am Once A Thief (PG, 1935) Crime drama starring John Stuart and Derek Gorst

7.20 The Greed of William Hart (PG, 1948) Horror starring Tod Slaughter

8.50 Look at Life

9.00 The Adventures of William Tell

9.30 Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe

9.55 Mystery on Bird Island (U, 1954) Children's adventure starring Mavis Sage

#### 11.00 Sir Francis Drake

11.30 The Adventures of Robin Hood

12.00 The Woman Eater (PG, 1958) Horror starring George Coulouris

1.25pm The Night My Number Came Up (PG, 1955) Thriller starring Michael Redgrave and Sheila Sim

3.25 The Long and the Short and the Tall (PG, 1960) Second World War drama starring Laurence Harvey

5.30 A Scandal in Paris (PG, 1946) Biopic with George Sanders and Signe Hasso

7.35 The Driving Force in 1966

#### 8.00 Maigret

9.05 Sammy Going South (U, 1963) Drama starring Fergus McClelland

11.25-1.15am Steptoe and Son (PG, 1972) Comedy starring Harry H Corbett and Wilfrid Brambell

### GREAT! Movies

FV 34 FS 302 SKY 321 VIRGIN 425

9.00am If Looks Could Kill (15, 2016) Thriller starring Stefanie Estes

10.40 A Body to Die For (PG, 2018) Thriller starring Sunny Mabrey and Lindsay Maxwell

12.30pm In Bed with a Killer (PG, 2019) Thriller starring Jennifer Taylor

2.20 How Do You Know (12, 2010) Romantic comedy starring Reese Witherspoon



Charlie Hunnam in *Last Looks* (Sky Premiere, 8pm)

### 4.40 Ricki and the Flash (12, 2015)

Comedy drama starring Meryl Streep

6.45 Diana (12, 2013) Fact-based drama starring Naomi Watts

9.00 Big Game (12, 2014) Action adventure starring Samuel L Jackson

10.50-1.05am Escape Plan (15, 2013) Prison thriller with Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger

### TCM Movies

SKY 315 VIRGIN 415

### 6.00am Hollywood's Best Film Directors

8.20 Cheyenne

1.00pm Cattle Annie and Little Britches (PG, 1980) Western starring Burt Lancaster and Scott Glenn

3.00 The Last Hunt (PG, 1956) Western starring Robert Taylor and Stewart Granger

5.10 A Thunder of Drums (PG, 1961) Western drama starring Richard Boone

7.10 Son of a Gunfighter (U, 1966) Western drama starring Russ Tamblyn

9.00 The Man from UNCLE (12, 2015) Spy adventure starring Henry Cavill and Armie Hammer

11.25-1.35am Fire Down Below (18, 1997) Adventure starring Steven Seagal

### Sky Cinema Premiere

SKY 301 VIRGIN 401

### 12.25pm The 355 (12, 2022)

Action thriller starring Jessica Chastain and Penélope Cruz

2.35 Ghosts of the Ozarks (15, 2021) Horror starring Thomas Hobson and Tara Perry

4.35 Belfast (12, 2021) Drama starring Jamie Dornan

6.25 Monstrous (15, 2022) A

terrifying new horror awaits Laura and her seven-year-old son Cody when they flee her abusive ex-husband. Horror starring Christina Ricci

8.00 Last Looks (15, 2021) A

disgraced cop seeks solace by moving to the woods, but his quiet life comes to an end when a PI recruits him to investigate a murder. Thriller starring Charlie Hunnam

10.10-12.20am The 355 (12, 2022) Action thriller

## Radio guide

### Times Radio

Digital only

6.00am Chloe Tilley and Calum Macdonald with Times Radio Breakfast

10.00 Hugo Rifkind 1.00pm Alexis Conran

4.00 Ayesha Hazarika 7.00 The TLS Podcast

8.00 Stories of Our Times

8.30 Matt Chorley. An insider's take on politics

9.00 Highlights from Times Radio.

Some of the best interviews of the week

10.00 Kait Borsay 1.00am Highlights from Times Radio

### Radio 2

FM: 88.902 MHz

5.00am Radio 2 in Concert

6.00 Sounds of the 60s with Tony Blackburn

8.00 Dermot O'Leary

10.00 Claudia Winkleman's 1.00pm Pick of the Pops

3.00 Rylan on Saturday

6.00 Shaun Keaveny

8.00 Sounds of the 80s with Gary Davies

10.00 Sounds of the 90s with Fearne Cotton

12.00 My Life in a Mixtape (r)

1.00am Dance Sounds of the 90s with Vernon Kay

2.00 My Life in a Mixtape (r)

4.00 Radio 2 in Concert: Prefab Sprout (r)

### Radio 3

FM: 90.2-92.4 MHz

7.00am Breakfast

9.00 Record Review

11.45 Music Matters With the soprano Lise Davidsen

12.30pm This Classical Life

With the violinist Geneva Lewis

1.00 Inside Music With the percussionist Calum Huggan

3.00 Sound of Cinema With the composer Tom Holkenborg

4.30 Music Planet

5.30 J to Z Paying tribute to the trumpeter Jamie Branch

6.30 Edinburgh International

Festival A 1976 recital by the pianist Alicia de Larrocha (r)

7.15 Live BBC Proms 2022

The Last Night of the Proms.

Bacewicz (Overture for Orchestra); Coleridge-Taylor (*Deep River*); Davydov (*At the Fountain*); James B Wilson (1922); Sibelius (*Snofrid*); Wagner (*Tannhäuser – Dich, teure Halle*); Grieg (12 Songs, Op 33 – *Varen*); Mascagni (*Cavalleria rusticana – Easter Hymn*); Verdi (*Macbeth – Vieni! t'affrettai!*); Ian Farrington (*New work*); Carwithen (*ODTAA*, *One Damn Thing After Another*, Overture); Kalman (*Heia, heia, in den Bergen ist mein Heimatland*); Villa-Lobos (*Bachianas Brasileiras – Cantilena*); Valentin Siyestrov (*Prayer for Ukraine*); Wood (*Fantasia on British Sea-Songs*); Arne (*Rule, Britannia!*); Elgar (*Pomp and Circumstance March No 1 in D, Land of Hope and Glory*); Parry (orch. Elgar) (*Jerusalem*); *The National Anthem* (arr. Britten); and Trad (*Auld Lang Syne*). See Choice

### Sky Cinema Premiere

SKY 301 VIRGIN 401

12.25pm The 355 (12, 2022)

Action thriller starring Jessica Chastain and Penélope Cruz

2.35 Ghosts of the Ozarks (15, 2021)

Horror starring Thomas Hobson and Tara Perry

4.35 Belfast (12, 2021)

Drama starring Jamie Dornan

6.25 Monstrous (15, 2022)

A terrifying new horror awaits

Laura and her seven-year-old

son Cody when they flee her

abusive ex-husband. Horror

starring Christina Ricci

8.00 Last Looks (15, 2021)

A disgraced cop seeks solace by

moving to the woods, but his

quiet life comes to an end

when a PI recruits him to

investigate a murder. Thriller

starring Charlie Hunnam

10.10-12.20am The 355 (12, 2022)

Action thriller

See Choice

### Today's pick

#### Last Night of the Proms

Radio 3, 7.15pm

The traditional flag-waving jamboree marking the end of Proms season is in many ways a TV rather than a radio event, especially now the post-Brexit subject of which flags viewers can spot has now become such a hot button issue. Still, Radio 3 is the home of Proms and here the station allows us to enjoy the full uninterrupted programme live from the Royal Albert Hall. The soprano Lise Davidsen and

#### 11.00 New Music Show

A performance of Bryn Harrison's *Three Descriptions of Place and Movement*  
1.00am Through the Night (r)

#### Radio 4

FM: 92.4-94.6 MHz  
LW: 198 kHz MW: 720 kHz

#### 5.30am News Briefing

5.45 Prayer for the Day

6.00 News and Papers

6.07 Ramblings (r)

6.30 Farming Today

This Week Agriculture

7.00 Today

8.31 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament

9.00 Saturday Live

10.30 You're Dead to Me

10.45-7.00pm (LW) Live Test Match Special: England v

South Africa Day three of the

third Test at the Oval

11.00 The Week in Westminster

11.30 From Our Own

Correspondent

12.01pm (LW) Shipping

12.04 Money Box

12.30 The News Quiz (r)

1.00 News

1.10 Any Questions? (r)

2.00 Any Answers? Phone-in

2.45 39 Ways to Save the Planet

3.00 Sound Insulating homes (r)

3.00 Drama: The Downing Street Doppelganger

Political comedy, by Jim Poyser

4.00 Weekend Woman's Hour

5.00 Saturday PM

5.30 Political Thinking with Nick Robinson

New series. An interview with a political figure

5.54 Shipping Forecast

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.15 Loose Ends Clive

Anderson is joined by Lenny Henry, Julia Donaldson, Vince Cable and Patrick Gale

7.00 Profile

7.15 This Cultural Life

8.00 Archive on 4: Paul Verhoeven's American Future

The director talks about his

visions of the future

9.00 GF Newman's The

Corrupted (6/10) (r)

9.45 King Albert's Book (r)

10.00 News

10.15 The People vs

J Edgar Hoover (r)

#### 6.00 Doctor Who 7.00 Dr Hannah Fry: Codebreaker

10.00 Comedy Club: Alex Horne Presents the Horne Section

10.55 The Comedy Club Interview

11.00 Rhod Gilbert's Bulging Barrel of Laughs

12.00 Doctor Who

#### BBC World Service

Digital only

9.00am News 9.06 BBC OS Conversations 9.30 Pick of the World 9.50 Over to You

10.00 News 10.06 Sports Hour 11.00 The Newsroom 11.30 Unspun World with John Simpson 12.00 News

12.06pm World Questions: Pakistan 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.06 Sportsworld 6.00 The Newsroom 6.30 Dear Daughter 6.50 Sporting Witness 7.00 News 7.06 BBC Proms on the World Service

8.00 News 8.06 The Arts Hour 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.06 Music Life

11.00 The Newsroom 11.20 Sports News 11.30 The Cultural Frontline 12.00 News 12.06am BBC OS Conversations 12.30 Dear Daughter 12.50 More or Less

1.00 News 1.06 The Science Hour 2.00 The Newsroom 2.30 Healthcheck 3.00 News 3.06 World Questions: Pakistan 4.00 News

4.06 From Our Own Correspondent 4.30 The Cultural Frontline

#### 6 Music

Digital only

#### 6.00am Amy Lamé 8.00 Radcliffe and Maconie

10.00 The Huey Show 1.00pm Jamz Supernova on 6 3.00 Giles Peterson 6.00 The Craig Charles Funk and Soul Show 9.00 The Blessed Madonna 12.00 Lose Yourself With 1.00am Lose Yourself With 2.00 Late in the Day

4.00 The Morning After Mix 6.00am GameDay Breakfast

#### 9.00am GameDay Warm Up

11.00 GameDay Exclusive:

Fulham v Chelsea (Kick-off 12.30) 2.30pm GameDay Live 5.30 The GameDay Phone-In 7.30 The Mark Goldbridge Show 9.00 Fight Night 12.00 A talkSPORT Special 1.00am Extra Time

#### TalkRadio

Digital only

#### 5.00am Cristo 7.00 David Bull

10.00 Peter Cardwell 1.00pm

Trisha Goddard 4.00 Claudia

Liza 7.00 Mike & Kev's

Saturday Night Talkaway

10.00 The James Whale Show

1.00am Darryl Morris

#### Radio 4 Extra

Digital only

#### 8.

# Sunday 11 | Viewing guide

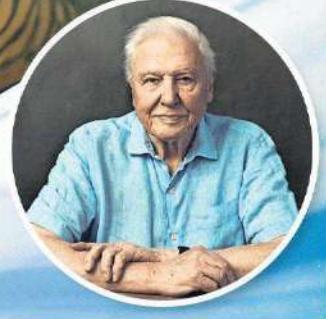
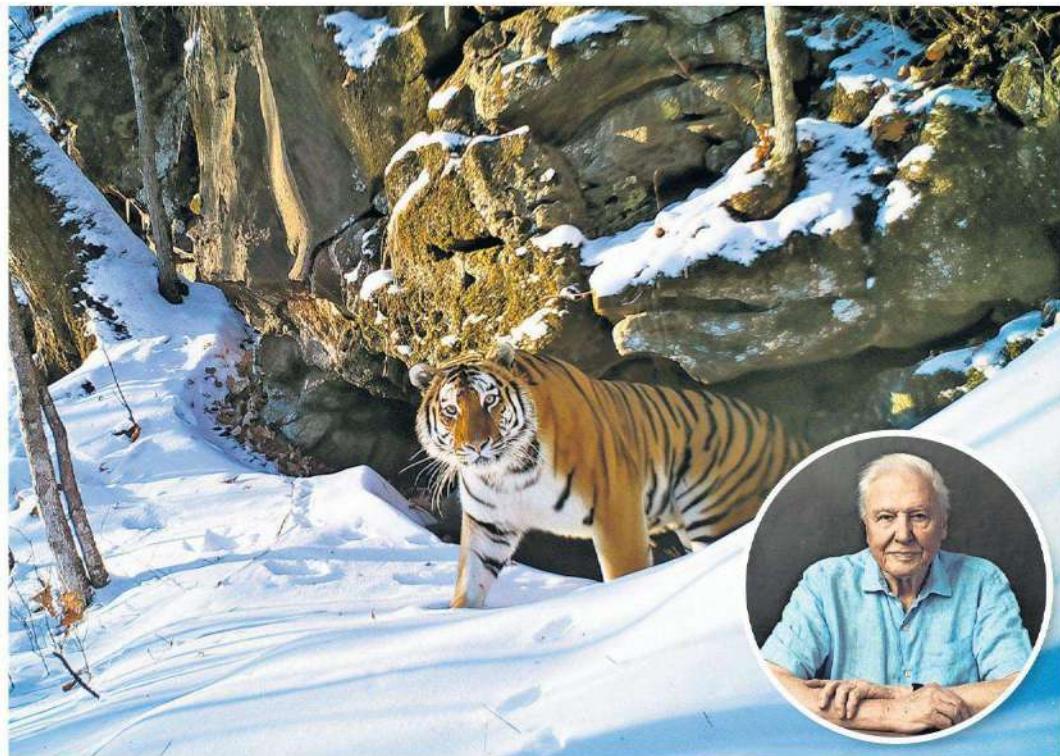
## Critic's choice

### Frozen Planet II

BBC1, 8pm

Back in 2011, the first series of *Frozen Planet* marked a transformation in how the epic collaborations between David Attenborough and the BBC's Natural History Unit would play out. No longer would viewers be able to simply marvel at nature's majesty then blithely switch over to something else. From then on, every episode would come necessarily freighted with alarms increasing in volume by the year: climate change is destroying natural habitats at a genuinely terrifying rate, with the prospect of the Arctic Sea being ice free in summer by 2035. The imagery and science could hardly be starker in the first episode of this sequel, which ranges beyond the Arctic and Antarctic to other previously inaccessible expanses, although the warnings are leavened by transporting

moments of grandeur and awe. Beginning with penguins is a no-brainer; the innate tragicomedy of their existence – protected then abandoned by their parents; the long march to the sea and sustenance – a guaranteed crowd-pleaser. It is in the deeper dives where the most compelling material lies. There are killer whales attempting to catch the seal each needs to consume every day to survive. The Siberian tiger, right, whose lengthy stalking of brown bears is brought to life with a striking *coup de théâtre*. And above all the male hooded seals, Dizzy Gillespies of the marine world only with inflatable noses rather than throats, and no slouches when it comes to self-defence even against the most formidable foes. *Frozen Planet II* should be watched, and on the biggest screen possible. **Gabriel Tate**



## The Serpent Queen

Starzplay

Samantha Morton and Charles Dance make a formidable pairing to lead this initially tricky but ultimately enjoyably conventional costume drama retelling the story of Catherine De Medici. The framing device finds Catherine (Morton) talking her servant Rahima (Sennia Nanaa) through her life, beginning with her canny marriage into the French court as a teenage orphan backed by her ambitious, nefarious uncle, Pope Clement (Dance), but potentially thwarted by the presence of an older, wiser romantic rival (Ludivine Sagnier). Raunchy, raucous and faintly daft, but all the more entertaining for it. **GT**

## Stolen: Catching the Art Thieves

BBC2, 8pm

The equal of any fictional action thriller, this tautly told and wholly absorbing story – the first of three documentaries about art heists – details the 1994 theft of two Turners from a Frankfurt gallery, where they were on loan from the Tate. Tate nabobs, old-school coppers and the smooth-talking lawyer who acted as middleman between authorities and criminals assemble to retell the tale. With about 95 per cent of stolen art never recovered, the stakes were as high as the chances of success were low. **GT**

## Ridley

ITV, 8pm

Could Adrian Dunbar, on-screen silver fox and soul of integrity, be the new John Thaw? ITV clearly hopes so, leaning hard into his post-Ted Hastings persona by giving his character Alex Ridley as wretched luck with women as Morse, and as deep a love of music, albeit supper-club jazz rather than opera. Dunbar's easy charisma helps the combination of mild larkiness, detective work and dark drama to slip down easily enough. Tonight brings a missing-person case mixed up with a family grieving over the recent demise of their patriarch, an impresario with a few secrets. **GT**

## Simon Reeve's South America

BBC2, 9pm

Although his latest travelogue was filmed over two Covid-interrupted years, Simon Reeve proves as ebullient and curious as ever, beginning his continental crossing in Venezuela and ending this first episode in French Guiana. There are encounters both fascinating and terrifying, but frustration with the corruption of political establishments is a depressingly common thread. How else to explain the rise of Ronnie Brunswijk, once a cocaine kingpin but now a gold magnate and Suriname's vice-president? Reeve gives him a careful grilling. **GT**

## Films of the day

### Ned Kelly (15, 2003)

GREAT! Movies, 9pm

This romanticised biopic of the Australian outlaw represents the point in Heath Ledger's career when he started to develop into something darker than a decorative set of cheekbones and nice hair. A complex and still controversial figure, Ned Kelly was a violent horse thief whose petty misdemeanours escalated into a guerrilla war with the police. The director Gregor Jordan's approach to the material is fairly pedestrian, turning the film into heavily fictionalised Robin Hood romanticism, but Ledger's charisma lures us in. Interestingly, the screenwriter John Michael McDonagh, who went on to write and direct the outstanding *The Guard*, is at pains to distance himself from the version of the script that made it onto the screen. (105min) **Wendy Ide**



## Regional programmes

- BBC1 Wales As BBC1 except: 3.35pm Money for Nothing (r) 4.05 Our Lives: Hell's Belles (r) 4.35 Iolo: A Wild Life (r) 5.05-5.35 Wales' Home of the Year (r)
- BBC1 N Ireland As BBC1 except: 2.35pm Sunday Politics Northern Ireland 3.05 The Travelling Picture Show. From the Upper Bann Valley (r) 3.35 Songs of Praise. The Rev Kate Bottley explores Carlisle Cathedral on its 900th anniversary 4.10 Points of View 4.25-4.35 Lifeline
- BBC2 N Ireland As BBC2 except: 4.00pm Paula Mcintyre's Hamely Kitchen (r) 4.30-5.00 Strawbridge Over the Drawbridge (r) 11.25 Sunday Politics Northern Ireland (r) 11.55 Beats About the House (r) 12.55-1.00am Waterworld (r)
- BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 except: 11.35pm Sportscene: Premiership Highlights (r) 12.35am The Women's Football Show 1.10 Weather 1.15-6.00 BBC News
- ITV Wales As ITV except: 7.30-8.00pm The Mart. The final market before the onset of the lambing season
- STV As ITV except: 1.30pm-4.30 Live STV Racing: Irish Champion's Weekend. At the Curragh 6.20-6.30 STV News 7.30-8.00 Sean's Scotland. Sean Batty travels to the Isle of Tiree 10.15-10.40 Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make 3.50-5.05am Unwind with STV

- UTV As ITV except: 7.30-8.00pm Mahon's Way. A visit to Killymoon Castle
- BBC Scotland 7.00pm The Seven 7.15 Sportscene 8.15 Rewind 2000s (r) 8.30 Born to Be Wild (r) 9.00 In Search of Sir Walter Scott (r) 10.00 Still Game (r) 10.30 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling (r) 11.00-Midnight Seven Days
- S4C 6.00am Cyw: Bing (r) 6.10 Twt (r) 6.20 Do Re Mi Dona (r) 6.35 Amser Maith Maith yn Öl (r) 6.50 Fferm Fach (r) 7.00 Cei Bach (r) 7.15 Guto Gwnning (r) 7.30 Sbarc (r) 7.45 Digbi Draig (r) 7.55 Stigldigwt (r) 8.10 Octonot (r) 8.25 Cacamwnci (r) 8.40 Blero yn Mynd i Oicio (r) 8.50 Penblwyddi Cyw 9.00 Garddio a Mwy (r) 9.30 Welsh Whisperer: Ni'n Teithio Nawr! (r) 10.00 Y Fets (r) 11.00 Dechrau Canu Dechrau Camol (r) 12.00 Yr Wythnos 12.30pm Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor y Byd 2022 (r) 1.00 Rygbi Pawb (r) 1.45 Gwesty Adnriad (r) 2.45 Cynefin (r) 3.45 Treff Gwyllo Iolo (r) 4.15 Cheer am Byth (r) 4.40 Lorient 2022 (r) 5.40 Cefn Gwlad (r) 6.10 Pobol y Cwm Omnisbws (r) 7.15 News 7.30 Dechrau Canu Dechrau Camol 8.00 Prosiect Pum Mil 9.00 Terfyng yn y Bae (r) 10.00 Cwpan Rygbi 7 Bob Ochor y Byd 2022 10.30 Y Babell Léon a Mwy 11.30-12.05am Codi Pac (r) (r) repeat (SL) In-vision signing

## Catch up

### Sunset Song

BBC iPlayer

If, after reading this, you should ever find yourself on a quiz show facing the big-money question, "Which was the first BBC Scotland drama to be shot in colour and feature the first nude scene?", we'd accept a 50:50 split of the jackpot. The 1971 adaptation of Lewis Grassic

Gibson's 1932 novel about Chris Guthrie (Vivien Heilbron, below) and the hardships of her farming life in Scotland at the start of the 20th century was that groundbreaker. The series made the important change from the novel of turning Guthrie into the narrator. All six episodes are available on iPlayer, along with a discussion about the acclaimed series between Heilbron and Moira Armstrong, the drama's director. **Toby Earle**

### Out of Blue (15, 2018)

BBC2, 11.25pm

Carol Morley's film is a rare beast – a successful screen adaptation of a Martin Amis novel. This cosmic postmodern noir is loosely based on Amis's *Night Train*, and that "loosely" may be crucial. The writer-director takes the bones of the book – a female sleuth, Mike Hoolihan (played with outrageous charisma by Patricia Clarkson, above), investigating the murder of an astrophysicist, Jennifer Rockwell (Mamie Gummer), plus a playful interest in theoretical physics and the clichés of crime fiction. However, she wraps them in some of her favourite personal themes and tops it off with a feminist garnish. At its best, it's a revisionist American detective yarn in the spirit of *Chinatown* and *Twin Peaks*. *Out of Blue* is always stylish and often compelling. (105min) **Ed Potton**

**Also available online and on tablet**

Digital subscribers can now use our interactive seven-day guide with comprehensive listings of all TV channels  
[thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner](http://thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner)

**Sunday 11****BBC1**

**6.00am Breakfast** **7.40** Match of the Day (r) **9.00** Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg **10.00** Live Great North Run. Coverage of the world's biggest half-marathon, which sees tens of thousands of runners of all abilities negotiate the course from Newcastle upon Tyne to South Shields **12.10pm** BBC News **12.15** Live MOTD: Women's Super League – Chelsea v West Ham United (Kick-off **12.30**). All the action from the top-flight clash between the London rivals at Stamford Bridge **2.35** Songs of Praise. The Rev Kate Bottley explores Carlisle Cathedral on its 900th anniversary **3.10** Points of View **3.25** Lifeline **3.35** Escape to the Country (r) **4.35** Attenborough's Wonder of Song (r) **5.35** BBC News **5.50** BBC Regional News; Weather **6.00** Countryfile. Rural developments



The Capture continues (9pm)

**7.00 Antiques Roadshow** Fiona Bruce presents the show from Sefton Park Palm House in Liverpool, where finds include a Ming vase bought in a charity shop, Beatles memorabilia and a painting by George Melly

**8.00 Frozen Planet II** New series. David Attenborough explores frozen regions around the world. The first episode begins in Antarctica, where Emperor Penguin chicks are abandoned by their parents as spring begins. **See Viewing Guide (1/6)**

**9.00 The Capture** Carey thinks someone has got to Isaac when he backs out of their shared plan. As she closes in on the truth, it takes her into greater danger than ever before (5/6)

**10.00BBC News; Weather**

**10.25 BBC Regional News**

**10.30 Match of the Day 2** Mark Chapman presents all the action from the latest fixtures, featuring Arsenal v Everton at Emirates Stadium, West Ham United v Newcastle United at London Stadium and Crystal Palace v Manchester United at Selhurst Park

**11.35 The Women's Football Show** Action from the opening matches of the season in the Super League, including Chelsea v West Ham United and Manchester City v Arsenal

**12.10am Weather for the Week Ahead** **12.15 BBC News.** The latest updates

**BBC2**

**6.05am Gardeners' World** (r) **7.05** Countryfile (r) **8.00** Beechgrove (r) **8.30** Weatherman Walking (r) **9.00** Coast Great Guides: East Anglia (r) **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites **11.30** Nadiya's Everyday Baking (r) **12.00** Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers (r) **12.10pm** Live Great North Run. Further coverage of the world's biggest half-marathon, which sees runners of all abilities negotiate the course from Newcastle upon Tyne to South Shields **2.00** Super League Playoff Highlights. Action from the elimination play-offs **3.00** The Hotel People (r) **4.00** Saving Lives at Sea (r) **5.00** Great North Run Highlights **6.00** Golf: PGA Championship. Highlights of the fourth and final day of one of the DP World Tour's most prestigious events, held at Wentworth in Surrey



Simon Reeve in Venezuela (9pm)

**7.00 Cricket: Today at the Test** England v South Africa. Action from day four of the series-concluding third Test, held at The Kia Oval. England lost their last Test here by 157 runs against India 12 months ago

**8.00 Stolen: Catching the Art** Thieves New series. First-hand accounts of Europe's most daring art heists, beginning with the theft of JMW Turner's *Shade and Darkness* and *Light and Colour* in 1994. **See Viewing Guide (1/3)**

**9.00 Simon Reeve's South America** New series. The adventurer sets off on a journey through the continent, beginning in the north-east, taking in Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana. **See Viewing Guide (1/5)**

**10.00 How To with John Wilson** The film-maker explores people's ability to remember things (3/6)

**10.25 Stewart Lee: Tornado** Stand-up performance filmed at York Theatre Royal, in which Lee tells a tangled shaggy dog story about backstage hospitality and flying sharks

**11.25 FILM Out of Blue (15, 2018)** A New Orleans cop investigates the murder of a black hole expert found shot dead in her observatory. Drama starring Patricia Clarkson and Toby Jones. **See Film Choice**

**1.10am Sign Zone: The Hotel People.** The Slieve Donard has its most important wedding of the season (r) (SL) **2.10-3.10 Days That Shook the BBC** with David Dimbleby (r) (SL)

**ITV**

**6.00am CITV 8.25** ITV News **8.30** Katie Piper's Breakfast Show **9.25** Love Your Weekend with Alan Titchmarsh **11.20** English Football League Highlights (r) **1.20pm** ITV News; Weather **1.30** Live ITV Racing: Irish Champion's Weekend – The Curragh. Ed Chamberlin presents coverage of day two of the Irish Champions Weekend, which takes place at The Curragh **4.30** Ninja Warrior UK: Race for Glory. The return of the obstacle-course challenge (r) **5.30** Tipping Point: Best Ever Finals (r) **6.00** ITV News; Weather **6.20** Regional News; Weather **6.30** Celebrity Lingo. RuPaul hosts as Michelle Visage and Vernon Kay, Dr Ranj Singh and Jenny Ryan, and Axel Blake and Ellie Taylor try to use their powers of deduction to fill in the blanks



Adrian Dunbar is Ridley (8pm)

**7.30 Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make** The chef Gino D'Acampo heads to Procida off the coast of Naples (2/6)

**8.00 Ridley** After a chance encounter with jazz singer Eve Marbury, the former detective agrees to help find her brother, who has been missing for 40 years. When a woman is found dead, dark secrets that have been buried for decades begin to emerge. Crime drama starring Adrian Dunbar. **See Viewing Guide (3/4)**

**9.00 Simon Reeve's South America** New series. The adventurer sets off on a journey through the continent, beginning in the north-east, taking in Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana. **See Viewing Guide (1/5)**

**10.00 ITV News**

**10.15 Bradley & Barney Walsh: Breaking Dad** A 3,000-mile trip through Europe (2/6) (r)

**10.40 Gallagher Premiership Rugby Union Highlights** All the action from the opening round of fixtures, including Exeter Chiefs v Leicester Tigers at Sandy Park and Bristol Bears v Bath at Ashton Gate

**11.40 Against the Odds** Guillermo Balague and Seb Hutchinson interview mid-fielder Cesc Fabregas, who discusses his illustrious career (9/10) (r)

**12.40am Teleshopping 3.00** Motorsport UK. Action from Knockhill (r) **3.50 Unwind with ITV 5.05 Save Money: Lose Weight** (r) (SL) **5.35 Save Money: Lose Weight** (r) (SL)

**Channel 4**

**6.00am The King of Queens** (r) **6.25** The King of Queens (r) **6.50** The King of Queens (r) **7.15** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.30** The Simpsons (r) **9.00** The Simpsons (r) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. With guests Harry Hill, Melvin Odom and Matt Goss **12.30pm** Jamie's One-Pan Wonders (r) **1.00** The Simpsons. Marge campaigns against a combat sport (r) **1.30** The Simpsons. Marge begins a new life protecting endangered aquatic creatures (r) **2.00** The Simpsons. Homer and Marge reignite their love life (r) **2.30** The Simpsons. With the voices of Tony Blair and JK Rowling (r) **3.05** **FILM Transformers: The Last Knight** (12, 2017) Sci-fi adventure sequel starring Mark Wahlberg **6.00** Channel 4 News



Celebrity SAS (9pm)

**6.30 Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix Highlights** Action from the 16th round of the season, held at Autodromo Nazionale di Monza, one of the fastest tracks on the calendar. Max Verstappen of Red Bull qualified fastest here last year, but failed to finish the race. There was a surprise McLaren one-two for Daniel Ricciardo and Lando Norris respectively here last year after a crash between title-challengers Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen

**9.00 Celebrity SAS: Who Dares Wins** The celebrity recruits face a series of trust exercises. When some of the group lose equipment and fail to keep their kit dry, all the recruits are punished for the mistake

**10.00 Gogglebox** The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their reactions (r)

**11.00 FILM The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** (12, 2012) Unassuming hobbit Bilbo Baggins is recruited to join a band of dwarves on a quest to reclaim their lost homeland. Fantasy adventure with Martin Freeman and Ian McKellen

**2.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** The chef Gordon Ramsay visits a Danish restaurant in Florida (r) (SL) **2.50 Couples Come Dine with Me**. Three couples in north London battle for the £1,000 prize (r) **3.45 Hollyoaks Omnibus** (r) (SL) **5.45 Drawers Off** (r)

**Channel 5**

**6.00am Milkshake!** **10.00** The Smurfs (r) **10.15** SpongeBob SquarePants (r) **10.25 Entertainment News on 5** **10.30 NFL End Zone** **11.00 Friends** (r) **11.30 Friends** (r) **12.05pm Friends** (r) **12.35 FILM The Poseidon Adventure** (PG, 1972) Terrified survivors race against time to escape from a capsized luxury cruise liner before it sinks. Disaster movie starring Gene Hackman, Ernest Borgnine and Shelley Winters **3.10 FILM Close Encounters of the Third Kind** (PG, 1977) A man's obsession with UFOs drives his family away and leads him to where aliens are about to make contact. Steven Spielberg's sci-fi drama starring Richard Dreyfuss and Teri Garr **5.55 5 News Weekend** **6.00 Happy Campers: The Caravan Park**. Cameras follow events at two West Country holiday camps (r)



Richard Dreyfuss stars (3.10pm)

**7.00 Billionaire Resorts: On Holiday with the Super Rich** A look at the Datai resort on the tropical Malaysian island of Langkawi, where guests enjoy the height of luxury in the middle of a remote 10-million-year-old rainforest (2/6)

**8.00 Million Pound Motorhomes** A Bath coachbuilder shows how he is using a Land Rover to create a one-of-a-kind motorhome from the engine up, and now the pressure is on to get the interior finished and find a buyer (8/10)

**9.00 Rich House, Poor House** A Lincolnshire racehorse breeder swaps lives for a week with a single mum in Scunthorpe, who works four jobs to keep afloat and provide for her son. Last in the series (5/5)

**10.05 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun** Cameras follow a couple as they run back and forth between the two bars they own, keeping their clientele happy, fed and watered (r)

**10.55 80s Greatest Pop Videos: 1982** A visual celebration of the best music of the year, from ABC, Duran Duran, Tears for Fears, Yazoo, the Jam, Dexys Midnight Runners, Musical Youth, Bucks Fizz and the Belle Stars (3/10) (r)

**12.55am Entertainment News on 5** **1.00** The LeoVegas Live Casino Show **3.00 Entertainment News on 5** **3.05 Britain's Favourite Cereal** (r) **4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes** (r) **5.30 Peppa Pig** (r) (SL) **5.35 Paw Patrol** (r) (SL) **5.50 Fireman Sam** (r) (SL)

# Sunday 11 | Primetime digital guide

FV Freeview FS Freesat

## TalkTV

FV 237, FS 217, SKY 526, VIRGIN 627

**6.00am Cristo** Wake up to all the latest news and updates that matter.

**7.00 David Bull** Taking a look at some of the biggest news stories of the day

**10.00 Richard Tice** The former MEP examines the state of the nation and delivers some much-needed sanity in his Sunday Sermon

**1.00pm Trisha Goddard** The broadcaster looks through the week's leading stories and gives her two cents on the biggest social dilemmas making the news this week

**4.00 Kevin O'Sullivan** The presenter tackles the big stories of the day and champions free speech

**7.00 The Sunday Night Club with Mark Saggers** The presenter reflects on the sporting weekend and more

**10.00-12.00pm It's The Unexplained with Howard Hughes**

## BBC3

FV 23, FS 179, SKY 117, VIRGIN 107

**7.00pm EastEnders**

**7.30 EastEnders**

**8.00 Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die** New series. Calum Best takes over the reins of Dorking Wanderers Ladies football club

**8.30 Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die** Calum is tested for the first time in his debut role as Chairman

**9.00 RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under** The queens are challenged to transform a family of men into gorgeous glamazons (7/8)

**9.55 Corey Baker's Dance Race** The artist's films featuring dance in striking and unexpected locations

**10.00 FILM Avicii: True Stories (15, 2017)** Documentary telling the story of the Swedish DJ, who died in 2018

**11.35-12.05am This Is Amapiano A** look at one of the fastest-growing new music genres

## BBC4

FV 9/24, FS 173, SKY 116, VIRGIN 108

**7.00pm Being Beethoven** A look at how the composer's return to the town of Heiligenstadt led to one of the most extraordinary outpourings of creativity in the history of music (2/3)

**8.00 Proms 2022: Unmissable Moments** Highlights from this year's concert season, including a tribute to Aretha Franklin and a performance of the Ukrainian national anthem by the Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra

**9.40 The Great Mountain Sheep Gather** Documentary following a shepherd's journey from summit to valley as he leads his sheep off Scafell Pike, reflecting on life caring for his flock in this rugged landscape

**11.20-12.20am Secrets of the Museum** Items kept behind closed doors at the V&A museum in London (1/6)

## More 4

FV 18, FS 124, SKY 136, VIRGIN 147

**6.55pm Come Dine with Me** The fourth dinner party in Eastbourne, East Sussex

**7.25 Come Dine with Me** A raconteur hosts the final night in Eastbourne

**8.00 The Dog House** A Labrador arrives and soon meets a seasoned dog owner – but an injury may prevent her from taking him in (6/8)

**9.00 I Survived 9/11** Documentary about the survivors of the World Trade Center attacks, including a lawyer originally from Hertfordshire who has had post-traumatic stress disorder since

**10.00 9/11: The Falling Man** Exploring a defining image of the terrorist attacks

**11.35-12.40am Emergency Helicopter Medics** A cyclist suffers life-threatening injuries after a collision with a car in Oxfordshire

## Sky Atlantic

SKY 108

**7.00pm Munich Games** A Mossad agent must work with a German counterpart to prevent a terrorist attack. Political thriller starring Yousef Sweid (1/6) (R)

**8.00 Munich Games** The Israeli team arrive, escalating the situation, and the investigation yields a first lead on who could be behind the leak of sensitive information (2/6) (R)

**9.00 House of the Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel following the story of House Targaryen, set 200 years before the events of the fantasy saga. Starring Paddy Considine (3/10) (R)

**10.05 Landscapers** Lancing and Wilkie have a breakthrough (3/4) (R)

**11.05-12.10am The Gilded Age** An unfortunate development finds George's new rail station under threat (3/9) (R)



## Wonder Woman

Gal Gadot stars as the Amazonian superhero in the 2017 fantasy adventure ITV2, 6.15pm

## Sky Documentaries

SKY 121, VIRGIN 278

**5.00pm FILM The Real Charlie Chaplin (PG, 2021)** A look at the life and work of the silent comedy icon, featuring an in-depth interview he gave to Life magazine in 1966. Narrated by Pearl Mackie

**7.15 FILM The Kid Stays in the Picture (15, 2002)** Documentary about the mercurial Hollywood film producer Robert Evans

**9.00 FILM The Loneliest Whale: The Search for 52 (PG, 2021)** Documentary about the search to find a rare whale that calls out at a frequency unrecognised by other whales. This mysterious creature is believed to live in complete solitude

**11.00-1.00am FILM Dave Not Coming Back (PG, 2020)** Two divers' efforts to retrieve a dead body from a freshwater cave

## ITV2

FV 6, FS 113, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**6.15pm FILM Wonder Woman (12, 2017)** An Amazon princess leaves her isolated island during the First World War, aiming to bring the conflict to an end. Fantasy adventure starring Gal Gadot

**9.00 Family Guy**

**9.30 Family Guy** Three traditional fairy tales are retold, Quahog-style

**10.00 Family Guy**

**10.30 Family Guy**

**11.00 Family Guy**

**11.30 American Dad!**

**11.55-12.25am American Dad!**

## ITV3

FV 10, FS 115, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**6.15pm Wycliffe** Pilot episode of the drama, starring Jack Shepherd

**8.00 Long Lost Family** A man looks for the son he put up for adoption more than 50 years ago. (3/5)

**9.00 Joanna Lumley's Home Sweet Home: Travels in My Own Land** The final episode takes Joanna from North Wales to St Michael's Mount (3/3)

**10.00 Endeavour (4/4)**

**11.50-1.55am Agatha Christie's Poitier** An aristocrat's overbearing wife is stabbed to death

## ITV4

FV 26, FS 117, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**7.00pm Silverstone Classic** More action from the classic car meet

**8.00 Gallagher Premiership Rugby Union Highlights** Action from the opening round of fixtures

**9.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain Highlights** The eighth and final stage, featuring a 148.9km route

**10.00 River Monsters** An ancient fishing community being terrorised in the Pacific Ring of Fire

**11.00-1.35am Rugby World Cup 7s 2022** Highlights from the third and final day of the tournament (3/3)

## E4

FV 13, FS 122, SKY 135, VIRGIN 106

**6.15pm Wipeout USA** People compete over an obstacle course

**7.15 FILM Bride Wars (12, 2009)** Comedy with Kate Hudson, Anne Hathaway and Candice Bergen

**9.00 Married at First Sight UK: Unveiled** With Grace Dent, Suzi Ruffell and Miles Nazaire (2/8)

**10.00 Rick and Morty**

**10.35 Harley Quinn** New series. Harley accidentally kidnaps the head of the Suicide Squad

**11.05 The Inbetweeners**

**11.40-12.10am The Inbetweeners**

## Dave

FV 19, FS 157, SKY 111

**7.00pm Special Ops: Crime Squad UK** Featuring a mugger in Kent

**8.00 QI XL** With panellists Sandi Toksvig, Aisling Bea and Susan Calman taking part in the quiz

**9.00 Have I Got 2021 News for You** A look back at the big news of 2021

**10.00 Late Night Mash** Rachel Parris and guests deliver topical insights and fake news reports

**11.00 Live at the Apollo** Nina Conti hosts the stand-up comedy show

**12.00-1.00am Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled** With Omid Djalili

## Drama

FV 20, FS 158, SKY 143, VIRGIN 130

**6.40pm Call the Midwife** Sister Frances struggles to make a fiercely independent woman accept help. Samantha Spiro stars

**8.00 Sister Boniface Mysteries** Sister Boniface investigates when a contestant in a beauty pageant meets an untimely end

**9.00 Rebus** The Edinburgh detective tries to discover the significance of an intriguing clue. Crime thriller starring Ken Stott

**10.35-12.45am The Last Detective** A 20-year-old unsolved murder

## Yesterday

FV 27, FS 159, SKY 155, VIRGIN 129

**7.00pm Bangers and Cash** A Roller and a Rover go under the hammer and a 1966 Triumph Spitfire is restored (2/10)

**8.00 'Allo 'Allo!**

**8.30 'Allo 'Allo!**

**9.00 'Allo 'Allo!** Rene uses strange means to establish essential radio contact with England

**9.35 'Allo 'Allo!** The spy camera has fallen into a vineyard

**10.05 Abandoned Engineering**

**11.05-12.05am Bangers and Cash** Vintage motorcycles (2/15)

## PBS America

FV 84, FS 155, SKY 174, VIRGIN 273

**6.15pm The Vietnam War North** Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces launch surprise attacks (6/10)

**8.00 The Vietnam War** Richard Nixon wins the presidency (7/10)

**10.15 Pelosi's Power House** Speaker Nancy Pelosi's life and legacy, drawing on in-depth interviews to build up a picture of one of the most powerful and polarising politicians in the USA

**12.00-1.15am Secrets, Lies and Atomic Spies** Taking a look into the 1943 Venona project

## Smithsonian

FV 57, FS 175, SKY 171, VIRGIN 276

**7.00pm Searching for Secrets** Singapore's most remarkable locations and surprising stories

**8.00 Combat Ships** Exploring stories of naval ships that sank below the waves

**9.00 Combat Ships** Naval armaments through history

**10.00 Inside the Factory** Gregg Wallace investigates Europe's largest biscuit factory in London

**11.00 Combat Ships**

**12.00-1.00am Combat Ships** Naval armaments through history

## Sky Arts

FV 11, FS 147, SKY 130, VIRGIN 165

**6.45pm Live from the Artists Den** The singer James Bay performs at Webster Hall in Manhattan

**8.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents** A couple intend to rob a wealthy eccentric Monica Lewinsky

**8.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents** A dead man relives his last day to try and find out who murdered him

**9.00 FILM I Am Alfred Hitchcock (15, 2021)** Profile of the film-maker

**10.45 Discovering: Queen** Reflecting on the music (6/9)

**11.45-12.45am The Directors**

## Sky History

SKY 123, VIRGIN 270

**7.00pm 9/11: Four Flights** Documentary marking 20 years since the 9/11 terror attacks

**9.00 9/11: The Legacy** Documentary recalling some of those people who died in the attacks of September 11 2001

**10.00 Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center** The story of the symbolic Twin Towers from conception to destruction

**12.00-1.30am Alone** The participants aim to procure food in order to stay for the long haul

## Sky Max

SKY 113, VIRGIN 122

**7.00pm A League of Their Own** With Aaron Ramsdale, Michael Sheen, Alex Brooker and Emily Atack taking part in the quiz

**8.00 A Discovery of Witches** Diana and Matthew are shocked to encounter Jack Blackfriars (2/7)

**9.00 S.W.A.T** Hikes witnesses the assassination of an old friend

**10.00 NCIS: Los Angeles** An employee of the navy's missile defence programme is murdered

**11.00 An Idiot Abroad 2**

**12.00-1.00am SEAL Team (11/14)**

## Discovery

SKY 125, VIRGIN 250

**7.00pm Lone Star Law**

**8.00 Cold Blooded Peruvian Predator: Expedition Mungo Paul** Mungo Paul attempts to capture Peru's vacumama snake on film

**9.00 Mysteries of the Deep**

**10.00 Deadliest Catch**

**11.00 Wheeler Dealers**

**12.00-1.00am 100 Days Wild**

## Nat Geographic

SKY 129, VIRGIN 266, BT 351

**7.00pm 9/11: One Day In America** A miraculous rescue story (6/6)

**8.00 9/11: Missing Carmen Rivera**

**9.00 Bin Laden's Spy in America** The work and eventual arrest of Osama bin Laden's right-hand man

**11.00 9/11 Firehouse**

**12.00-1.00am 9/11: Inside the Pentagon** Personal stories

## Sky Comedy

SKY 114, VIRGIN 135, BT 346

**7.00pm The Office (US)**

**8.00 Young Rock (3/2)**

**8.30 Young Rock (4/2)**

**9.00 Bloods (7/10)**

**9.30 Curb Your Enthusiasm**

**10.45 The Rehearsal (3/6)**

**11.20 The Trip to Greece (5/6)**

**11.55-12.30am The Trip to Greece**

Steve receives bad news (6/6)

## Comedy Central

SKY 112, VIRGIN 181, BT 344

**7.00pm Friends**

**7.30 Friends**

**8.00 Friends**

**8.30 Friends**

**9.00 FILM American Pie: Reunion (15, 2012)** Comedy sequel starring Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan

**11.10-1.10am Greatest Ever Movie Blunders** Mistakes in movies

## Gold

SKY 110, VIRGIN 124

**6.30pm Only Fools and Horses**

**8.20 Dad's Army**

**9.00 Billy Connolly Does... The Big Yin** offers some words of wisdom

**10.00 Men Behaving Badly** Tony constructs a sauna

**10.40 The Royle Family**

**11.20 Ghosts**

**12.00-12.35am Ghosts**

## W

FV 25, FS 156, SKY 132

**7.00pm 999 Rescue Squad**

**8.00 Inside the Operating Theatre**

**9.00 Killer Women with Piers Morgan** A Florida woman convicted of her husband's murder

**10.00 Louis Theroux: Life on the Edge** Focusing on families

**11.10-12.10am Louis Theroux: Miami Mega Jail**



I Am Alfred Hitchcock is a 2021 film following the career of the director (Sky Arts, 9pm)

## Sky Cricket

SKY 404, VIRGIN 514

**10.15am Live Test Cricket: England v South Africa** Day four of the series-concluding third Test

**7.00pm Bowled Shane**

**7.45 Best of England v South Africa** The 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup

**8.00 Test Cricket**

**9.00 Talking Cricket**

**9.30 Shaun Pollock: Bowling Masterclass** Cricketing technique

**10.00 Test Cricket Bitesize**

**11.15-12.00 Best of England v South Africa** Two classic matches

## BT Sport 1

SKY 413, VIRGIN 527, BT 430

**7.00am Live AFLW: Richmond v Hawthorn** (Bounce-up 7.10)

**9.00-11.00 Live AFLW: West Coast Eagles v Essendon** (Bounce-up 9.10), Coverage of the match

**11.30-1.30pm Live Serie A**

**2.00 Live Gallagher Premiership**

**Rugby Union:** Gloucester v Wasps

**5.15-6.00 Live Rugby Tonight**

**7.00 Live Golazzo**

**7.45 Live Serie A**

**10.00 Down The Clubhouse**

**11.00 Joe Cole Cast**

**11.30-3.45am Live Hero CPL**

## BT Sport 2

SKY 414, VIRGIN 528, BT 431

**2.00-4.00pm Live Serie A**

**5.00 Live Serie A**

**7.00 World Rally Championship**

**7.30 Live Ligue 1: Monaco v Lyon** (Kick-off 7.45). From Stade Louis II

**9.45 WWE SmackDown Highlights**

**10.45 One Day International**

**Cricket Australia v New Zealand**

**11.45 UEFA Champions League Goals Reload** The latest fixtures

**12.00 Live Baseball Tonight**

**1.00-4.30am Live MLB: Chicago Cubs v San Francisco Giants** (Start-time 1.00)

## Film guide

### Film4

TV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428

**11.00am Carry On Constable** (U, 1960) Comedy starring Sid James and Kenneth Williams  
**12.45pm Bee Movie** (U, 2007) Animated comedy with the voice of Jerry Seinfeld  
**2.35 The Adventures of Tintin** (PG, 2011) Animation with the voice of Jamie Bell  
**4.45 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles** (12, 2014) Fantasy adventure starring Megan Fox  
**6.50 The Eagle** (12, 2011) Adventure with Channing Tatum and Jamie Bell  
**9.00 Alita: Battle Angel** (12, 2019) Sci-fi adventure starring Rosa Salazar  
**11.25-1.20am Little Fockers** (12, 2010) Comedy starring Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro

### Talking Pictures TV

TV 82 FS 306 SKY 328 VIRGIN 445

**6.00am Shoot to Kill** (PG, 1947) Gangster drama starring Russell Wade  
**7.15 Flannelfoot** (PG, 1953) Crime thriller starring Ronald Howard and Mary Germaine  
**8.40 Saddle Up**  
**8.45 Vengeance Valley** (PG, 1951) Western starring Burt Lancaster and Robert Walker  
**10.25 Saddle Up**  
**10.30 The Mysterious Mr Sheffield** (PG, 1935) Western starring Guinn "Big Boy" Williams and Molly O'Day  
**11.40 Saddle Up**  
**11.45 Nurse Edith Cavell** (PG, 1939) First World War biopic starring Anna Neagle  
**1.45pm Go Go with Matt Monro**  
**2.20 Forever and a Day** (PG, 1943) Epic drama starring Anna Neagle and Ray Milland  
**4.30 British Rails Are Long and Fast**  
**5.00 The Footage Detectives**  
**6.00 The Saint**  
**7.00 The Browning Version** (U, 1951) Drama starring Michael Redgrave  
**8.50 Look at Life**  
**9.00 The Onedin Line**  
**10.00 Fraulein** (PG, 1958) Romantic drama starring Dana Wynter and Mel Ferrer  
**11.45-12.50am The Heritage Chart Show with Mike Read**

### GREAT! Movies

TV 34 FS 302 SKY 321 VIRGIN 425

**9.00am GREAT! Movie News**  
**9.10 The Ex Next Door** (PG, 2019) Thriller starring Alicia Ziegler and Philip Boyd  
**11.00 GREAT! Movie News**  
**11.10 Maniac Mom** (PG, 2017) Thriller starring Jessica Blackmore, Virginia Tucker and Ashley Wood  
**1.00pm Murder-in-Law** (12, 2019) Thriller starring Kristen Dalton and Mark Collier  
**2.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**3.00 Cheaper By the Dozen 2** (PG, 2005) Comedy sequel starring Steve Martin



Rosa Salazar is Alita: Battle Angel (Film4, 9pm)

### 4.45 Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb

(PG, 2014) Fantasy comedy sequel starring Ben Stiller

**6.55 Last Vegas** (12, 2013) Comedy starring Michael Douglas and Robert De Niro

**9.00 Ned Kelly** (15, 2003) Adventure starring Heath Ledger. See Film Choice

**11.15-1.10am The Ugly Truth** (15, 2009) Romantic comedy starring Gerard Butler and Katherine Heigl

### TCM Movies

SKY 315 VIRGIN 415

### 6.00am Hollywood's Best Film Directors

**7.45 TCM Shorts: Michael Caine Off Set**

**8.15 Cheyenne**

**1.00pm Hellfire** (PG, 1949) Western starring Bill Elliott

**3.00 King of the Wild Stallions** (U, 1959) Western starring Diane Brewster

**4.40 The Searchers** (U, 1956) John Ford's Western drama starring John Wayne

**7.05 Code Name: Emerald** (PG, 1985) Second World War spy adventure starring Ed Harris and Max von Sydow

**9.00 Payback** (18, 1999) Thriller starring Mel Gibson

**11.10-1.10am Police Academy** (15, 1984) Comedy starring Steve Guttenberg

### Sky Cinema Premiere

SKY 301 VIRGIN 401

### 12.10pm The 355

(12, 2022) Action thriller starring Jessica Chastain and Penélope Cruz

**2.30 Last Looks** (15, 2021) Thriller starring Charlie Hunnam and Mel Gibson

**4.40 Even Mice Belong in Heaven** (PG, 2021) Animated comedy

**6.15 Monstrous** (15, 2022) Horror starring Christina Ricci

**8.00 Stowaway** (15, 2022) A tenacious party girl fights to survive after three thieves commandeer her luxury yacht. Thriller with Ruby Rose

**9.45-12.05am The 355** (12, 2022) When a top-secret weapon falls into mercenary hands, a CIA agent joins forces with three international agents to retrieve it. Action thriller with Jessica Chastain

## Radio guide

### Times Radio

Digital only

**6.00am Chloe Tilley and Calum Macdonald** 10.00 Kate McCann and Adam Boulton

**1.00pm Alexis Conran** 4.00 Ayesha Hazarika

Highlights from Times Radio

**8.00 Stories of Our Times**

**8.30 Matt Chorley** 9.00 Highlights from Times Radio

**10.00 Kait Borsay** 1.00am Highlights from Times Radio

### Radio 2

FM: 88.90-90.2 MHz

**5.00am Tracks of My Years**

**6.00 Good Morning Sunday**

**9.00 Steve Wright** 11.00 Alex Jones

**1.00pm Elaine Paige**

**3.00 Sounds of the 70s** with Johnnie Walker

**5.00 Rob Beckett** 7.00 Tony Blackburn

**8.00 Sunday Night Is Music**

**Night (r)** 10.00 Radio 2

Unwinds with Angela Griffin

**12.00 OJ Borg** 3.00 Alternative

Sounds of the 90s with Dermot O'Leary

**4.00 Early Breakfast**

10.45-7.00pm (LW) Live Test

Match Special: England v South Africa

Day four of the third Test at the Oval

**11.15 The Reunion** (5/5)

**12.01pm (LW) Shipping**

**12.24 Mark Steel's In Town (r)**

**1.00 The Food Programme**

**1.00 The World This Weekend**

**1.30 The Coming Storm (r)**

**2.00 Gardeners' Question**

Time From Preston (r)

**2.45 The Bear Next Door (r)**

**3.00 Drama: North and South**

By Elizabeth Gaskell (2/3)

**4.00 Open Book** Ian McEwan

discusses his book *Lessons*

**4.30 Contains Strong**

Language Live from Birmingham

With Luke Wright

**5.00 File on 4 (r)**

**5.40 Profile (r)**

**5.54 Shipping Forecast**

**6.00 Six O'Clock News**

**6.15 Pick of the Week**

**7.00 The Archers** Justin

seems underwhelmed

**7.15 Ed Reardon's Week (r)**

**7.45 Hulda's Cafe (4/5)**

**8.00 More or Less (r)**

**8.30 Last Word (r)**

**9.00 Money Box (r)**

**9.25 Radio 4 Appeal (r)**

**9.30 Princess (r)**

**10.00 The Westminster Hour**

**11.00 Loose Ends (r)**

**11.30 Something Understood**

Changing perspectives (r)

**12.00 News and Weather**

**12.15am Thinking Allowed (r)**

**12.45 Bells on Sunday (r)**

**12.48 Shipping Forecast**

**1.00 As BBC World Service**

**Radio 4**

FM: 92.4-94.6 MHz

LW: 198 kHz MW: 720 kHz

**5.30am News Briefing**

**5.43 Bells on Sunday**

**5.45 Profile (r)**

**6.00 News Headlines**

**6.05 Something Understood**

Changing perspectives (r)

**6.35 On Your Farm**

**Radio 5 Live**

MW: 693, 909

**5.00am Sports Desk** 5.30

**5.45 Bells on Sunday** 5.00

**6.00 Science** 7.00

**6.00 Breakfast** 10.00

**Helen Skelton** 12.00

**Live Sport: Arsenal v Everton** (Kick-off 1.00)

**2.00 4.00pm Live Sport:**

**Crystal Palace v Manchester United** (Kick-off 4.30)

**4.30 6.00pm Live Sport:**

**West Ham v Liverpool** (Kick-off 4.30)

**7.00 9.00pm Live Sport:**

**Leeds United v Newcastle United** (Kick-off 7.00)

**9.00 11.00pm Live Sport:**

**Everton v Chelsea** (Kick-off 9.00)

**11.00 1.00am Live Sport:**

**Leicester City v Liverpool** (Kick-off 11.00)

**1.00 3.00am Live Sport:**

**Southampton v Manchester City** (Kick-off 1.00)

**3.00 5.00am Live Sport:**

**Leeds United v Liverpool** (Kick-off 3.00)

**5.00 7.00am Live Sport:**

**Leeds United v Liverpool** (Kick-off 5.00)

**7.00 9.00pm Live Sport:**

**Leeds United v Liverpool** (Kick-off 7.00)

**9.00 11.00pm Live Sport:**

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**5.00 7.00am Live Sport:**

**Leeds United v Liverpool** (Kick-off 5.00)

**7.00 9.00pm Live Sport:**

**Leeds United v Liverpool** (Kick-off 7.00)</

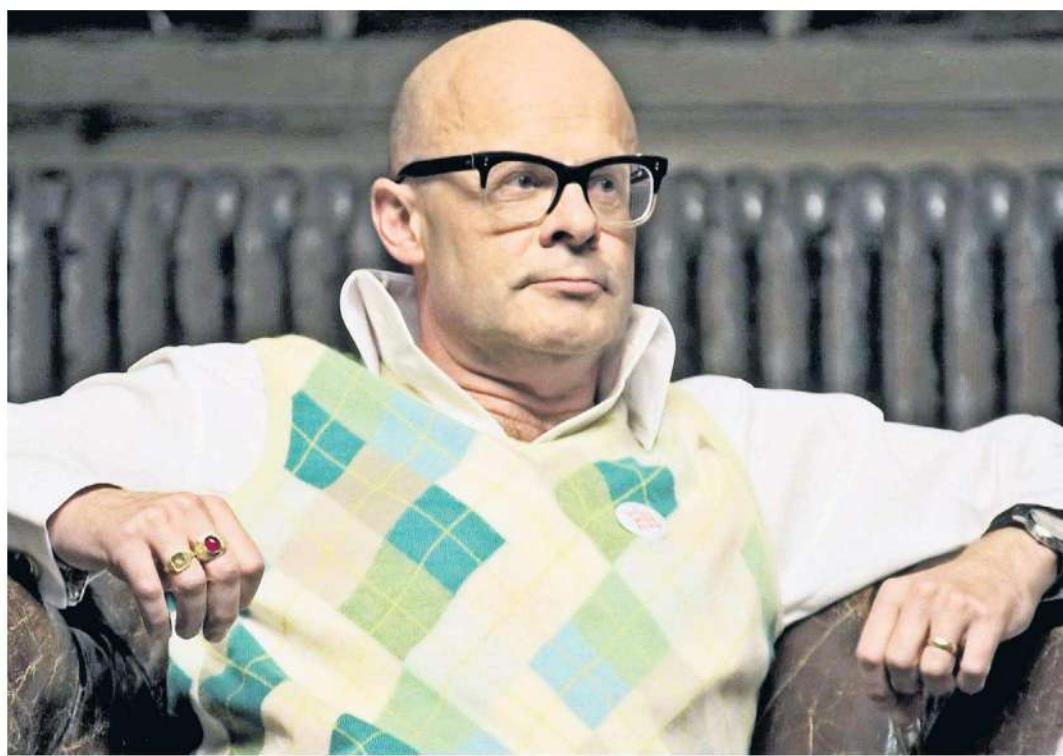
# Monday 12 | Viewing guide

## Critic's choice Britain's Greatest Obsessions

Sky History/Now, 9pm

Searching yet polite conversations round the sofa used to be all the rage on British TV. Remember shows such as *After Dark* and *The Late Review*? Such programmes these days are often either too shouty or too bland, so this panel of likeable personalities chewing over matters close to the heart of the nation is particularly welcome. In the opener Harry Hill, right, takes the chairman's role and examines whether there is anything special about the British sense of humour. In between chats he goes on the road, finding in the comedian Henning Wehn (cheekily billed as "The Only Funny German"), a man who thinks we Brits aren't funnier than other nations, we just place a higher value on comedy. Germans would never joke about screwing up at work, says Wehn, while for Brits the anecdote would

make any disaster almost worth being fired for. We tend to bond more intensely over humour while also expressing our anxieties, suggest some of the panel, which comprises the Madness frontman Suggs, the presenters Lorraine Kelly and Chris Packham, the actress Liza Tarbuck and the comedian Reginald D Hunter. Why isn't Hill on TV more? So original and funny, ribald but never patronising, he finds rich nuggets in everything, including a lovely meeting with a Punch and Judy operator who reminds us that the entertainment was Italian in origin. Hill also chews over the appeal of Tommy Cooper, the Carry Ons and pantomime (Bonnie Langford guests for this bit), all proving rich subjects for his imagination. It's a simple format, nicely executed. Next week it's Suggs on pubs. I'll get my order in now. Ben Dowell



## The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolsonaros

BBC2, 9pm

"The main reaction from Brazil's political establishment when Jair Bolsonaro declared his candidacy for the presidency was laughter," we're told in episode two of this profile of the populist politician. His preening and strutting were indeed absurd but soon the joke was on his opponents. This episode tells the murky story of his 2018 electoral bid. His crude references to rape and his anti-gay rhetoric were more than an unpleasant sideshow and his pitch as an anti-corruption saviour proved irresistible. BD

## The Suspect

ITV, 9pm

Despite a few clunky lines this drama has maintained its momentum and kept the central intriguing question alive: is Aidan Turner's shrink Dr Joe O'Loughlin a wronged man or, in the blunt words of Shaun Parkes' Di Ruiz, a "sick killer". Last week Joe appeared to be telling more fibs and sought to incriminate his troubled patient Bobby. He also lied to his wife, Julianne, and finally admitted he was having sex with another woman when the murder occurred. "This is a well-planned nightmare," he wailed. As he seeks to save his marriage tonight he also unearths details that point to another culprit. BD

## Can't Eat, Can't Heat: Who's Going to Sort It and How?

Channel 5, 9pm

Cometh the cost-of-living crisis cometh the Vine, Jeremy Vine that is, who hosts this one-hour live debate promising to put an audience face to face with those they feel are to blame for their problems. There was no confirmation of the line-up at the time of writing, but we have been promised "varied voices with opposing points of view as we get to the bottom of where the buck stops". What's the reason for escalating prices – greedy energy companies or inflation policy? BD

## House of the Dragon

Sky Atlantic/Now, 9pm

If you have caught your breath following the epic battle last week between Matt Smith's Prince Daemon and the Crabfeeder, ending up with Daemon very much having the upper hand, there's a marked change of tone tonight. Daemon saunters back to King's Landing like the cock of the walk, while also promising loyalty to King Viserys. But what's this? A night-time walk through the city with Princess Rhaenyra creates all sorts of drama. The filth has enormous consequences for everyone in a tense, intimate and quieter episode. BD

## Films of the day

### A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (PG, 2019) Film4, 9pm

Tom Hanks plays the American kids' TV icon Fred Rogers, who hosted *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* for more than three decades and was known for his soothing vocal delivery and his passionate belief in the importance of child psychology. While *Sesame Street* taught American children numbers, letters and how to be a back-chatting wiseass, Mister Rogers concentrated on their nascent emotions and evolving sense of self. In this film Hanks's Rogers is shadowed and profiled by a cynical journalist, Lloyd Vogel (an excellent Matthew Rhys), who aims to expose him as something less than the saint he appears to be. The set-up is catnip for crybabies as the hard-bitten hack is slowly melted by a continuing encounter with ineffable kindness. (108min) Kevin Maher



## Regional programmes

- BBC1 Wales As BBC1 except: 8.00pm We Are Strong Women: Our Lives 8.30-9.00 Ruck Stars 10.50 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next (r) 11.50 Panorama 12.20am Have I Got a Bit More News for You (r) 1.05 Elite & Natasia (r) 1.20-1.35 Ellie & Natasia (r)

- BBC1 N Ireland As BBC1 except: 8.00pm Strawbridge Over the Drawbridge 8.30-9.00 Panorama 10.50 The Hotel People 11.50 Have I Got a Bit More News for You (r) 12.35am Ellie & Natasia (r) 1.05 Elite & Natasia (r) 1.10 The Hit List (r) 1.55-6.00 BBC News

- BBC2 N Ireland As BBC2 except: 10.00-10.30pm Peatall! (r)

- BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 except: 8.00pm-9.00 Inside Central Station 10.50 Panorama 11.20 Have I Got a Bit More News for You (r) 12.05am Sportscene SWPL Highlights (r) 12.50 Ellie & Natasia (r) 1.05 Ellie & Natasia (r) 1.20 Weather 1.25-6.00 BBC News

- ITV Wales As ITV except: 10.45pm Sharp End 11.15-11.45 Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make. The chef visits Procida off the coast of Naples (r)

- STV As ITV except: 10.30pm STV News 10.40 Scotland Tonight 11.05 Police, Camera, Murder (r) 12.05am-3.00 Teleshopping 3.50-5.05 Unwind with STV

- UTV As ITV except: 10.45-11.45pm View from Stormont. Political developments
- BBC Scotland 2.00pm Sign Zone: Getting Hitched Asian Style (r) 3.00 Sign Zone: Beechgrove (r) 3.30-4.30 Sign Zone: Wild Way of the Vikings (r) 7.00 SWPL Highlights 7.45 Rewind 1980s (r) 8.00 Beechgrove (r) 8.30 Scotland's Home of the Year (r) 9.00 The Nine 10.00 River City 10.30 Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond 11.00 Raiders of the Lost Archive (r) 11.30-Midnight Scot Squad (r)

- 8.00 6.00am Cyw 12.00 News 12.05pm Dim Byd i'r Wysg (r) 12.30 Cwpan Rygbil 7 Bob Ochor y Byd 2022 (r) 1.00 Sain Ffagan (r) 1.30 Triathlon Para y Byd, Abertawe (r) 2.00 News 2.05 Prynhwyn Da 3.00 News 3.05 Y Babell Lén a Mwy (r) 4.00 Awr Fawr: Cywion Bach (r) 4.05 Odo (r) 4.15 Gwdiwrh (r) 4.30 Sion y Chef (r) 4.45 Awyr Iach (r) 5.00 Stwsh: Dennis a Damned (r) 5.10 Bwystfil (r)

- 5.20 Angel am Byth (r) 5.30 Kung Fu Panda (r) 5.55 Feil 6.00 Codi Hwy (r) 6.30 Rownd a Rownd 6.57 News 54C 7.00 Heno 7.30 News 8.00 Sgwrs Dan y Lloer 8.25 Garddio a Mwy 8.55 News 9.00 Cefn Gwlad 9.30 Sgorio 10.00 Caeau Cymru (r) 10.30 Y Llinell Las (r) 11.00-11.35 Gwylan Garref (r)

(r) repeat (SL) In-vision signing

## Catch up

### Running with the Devil: The Wild World of John McAfee

Netflix  
A film that starts with the record of two documentary journalists for Vice who found themselves filming John McAfee as he went on the run from the law in Belize. The American anti-virus software founder had just been accused

of murdering his neighbour after a dispute over his dogs. McAfee never admits to the crime, but to call the billionaire a maverick would be an understatement. The journalists' footage shows him in the midst of his crisis – at one point, just as he's about to be hauled into the back of a police van in Guatemala, he whips out a flute and starts playing it – but as the story then unspools over several years, McAfee's behaviour becomes even more wayward, his story even weirder. The fact that this multimillionaire is a madman makes him all the more compelling.

James Jackson



### The Aftermath (15, 2019)

BBC2, 11.15pm

Keira Knightley stars in this wartime romance, a film with dramatic potential and fascinating context. The setting is bomb-blasted Hamburg five months after VE Day, presented in beguiling aerial shots and gritty, body-strewn street scenes. This is a hellish place where surviving Germans resent the occupying Allied forces. It's a dangerous environment infiltrated by diehard Nazi fighters, the so-called Werwolf, who launch guerrilla attacks against the British. Into this dark and complex milieu steps Knightley's bored British housewife, Rachael, and her repressed husband, Lewis (Jason Clarke). Lewis is busy chasing Werwolf murderers, leaving Rachael free to have an affair with the house's other resident, sexy chisel-chested Stefan (Alexander Skarsgård). (104min) KM

**Also available online and on tablet**

Digital subscribers can now use our interactive seven-day guide with comprehensive listings of all TV channels  
[thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner](http://thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner)

**Monday 12****BBC1**

**6.00am Breakfast** 9.15 Morning Live  
**10.00 Dom Does America** (r) 10.45  
 Claimed and Shamed (r) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (r) 12.15pm Bargain Hunt 1.00 BBC News at One; Weather 1.30 BBC Regional News; Weather 1.45 Doctors. Sid is surprised to get a visit from an old flame 2.15 Money for Nothing. Jacqui Joseph scouring boots full of rubbish at Altringham Recycling Centre 3.00 Escape to the Country (r) 3.45 The Bidding Room. Items include navigation lights and a watch repair kit (r) 4.30 Antiques Road Trip. New series. Raj Bisram and Irina Marriott take a ride around Suffolk and Norfolk 5.15 Pointless. New series. Quiz hosted by Alexander Armstrong and Sally Lindsay 6.00 BBC News at Six; Weather 6.30 BBC Regional News; Weather



Will Kat marry Phil? (7.30pm)

**BBC2**

**6.30am Money for Nothing** (r) 7.15 The Bidding Room (r) 8.00 Sign Zone: Antiques Roadshow (r) (SL) 9.00 BBC News 10.00 BBC News 12.15pm Politics Live 1.00 Chase the Case (r) 1.45 Eggheads (r) 2.15 Glorious Gardens from Above (r) 3.00 Flipping Profit. Caroline Hawley, Danny Sebastian and Stu Abbott search for items in Buxton (r) 3.45 Wanted: A Simple Life. The Parkers sample life in Dorset (r) 4.30 Murder, Mystery and My Family. The 1884 murder of a policeman in Co Durham (r) 5.15 Flog It! Valuing antiques at Southwell Minster, near Nottingham (r) 6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games. With Rob Deering, Katy Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell 6.30 Unbeatable. General knowledge quiz hosted by Jason Manford



Keira Knightley stars (11.15pm)

**ITV**

**6.00am Good Morning Britain** 9.00 Lorraine 10.00 This Morning 12.30pm Loose Women. Interviews and studio discussion 1.30 ITV News; Weather 1.55 Regional News; Weather 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. David Dickinson is joined in Middlesbrough by experts Fay Rutter, Mark Stevens, Stewart Hofgartner and Cheryl Hakeney to assess items brought in by members of the public 3.00 Tenable. New series. Five family members from Blackpool take on the Tower as they answer questions about top 10 lists 4.00 Tipping Point. Ben Shephard hosts the arcade-themed quiz in which contestants drop tokens down a choice of four chutes in the hope of winning a £10,000 jackpot 5.00 The Chase. Quiz show 6.00 Regional News; Weather 6.30 ITV News; Weather



The Suspect continues (9pm)

**Channel 4**

**6.10am Countdown** (r) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) 7.15 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (r) 8.05 Everybody Loves Raymond (r) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond (r) 9.00 Frasier (r) 9.30 Frasier (r) 10.00 Frasier (r) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (r) 11.25 Channel 4 News Summary 11.30 The Great House Giveaway (r) 12.30pm Steph's Packed Lunch 2.10 Countdown. With Rick Edwards 3.00 A Place in the Sun (r) 4.00 Château DIY. At Château Lagorce, a man must learn to roof tile for a poolside project 5.00 Moneybags. Craig Charles hosts the quiz that puts mental speed to the test 6.00 The Simpsons (r) 6.30 Hollyoaks. Sienna takes pity on Joel at the last second, but his secret falls into the wrong hands (r)



Jamie's one-pot gnocchi (8.30pm)

**Channel 5**

**6.00am Milkshake!** 9.15 Jeremy Vine 12.45pm Holiday Homes in the Sun. Properties in Empuriabrava on the Costa Brava 1.40 5 News at Lunchtime 1.45 Home and Away. Tane tells the bikies that Genevieve is drawing suspicion from the gym members (r) 2.15 FILM Best Friend's Betrayal (PG, TVM, 2019) A possessive woman becomes determined to destroy her best friend's new romance with a successful crime writer. Thriller starring Mary Grill and Vanessa Walsh 4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. A couple who traded in the delights of Essex for a home in a "pueblo blanco", or traditional white village, on a mountain overlooking the Mediterranean (r) 5.00 5 News at 5 6.00 Cash in the Attic. Helping people make money 6.55 5 News Update



The cost of living crisis (9pm)

**7.00 The One Show** Alex Jones and Jermaine Jenas present topical stories and celebrity chat

**7.30 EastEnders** It's the day of Phil and Kat's wedding and the bride gets a shock when Mo turns up

**8.00 Panorama** Jane Corbin investigates the smugglers who get people into Britain

**8.30 We Are England** The workers behind the two Mini factories in Swindon and Oxford, producing nearly 1,000 cars a day

**9.00 The Capture** Carey is kidnapped and interrogated by a surprising face. She has an opportunity to expose the truth, but a moral obstacle prevents her whistleblowing. Last in the series (6/6)

**10.10 BBC News at Ten**

**10.40 BBC Regional News**

**10.50 Have I Got a Bit More News for You** Charlie Brooker is guest host of this episode, with the journalist Helen Lewis and the comedian Ivo Graham (1/9) (r)

**11.35 Ellie & Natasia** Ellie White and Natasia Demetriou present the 21st-century *Guide to Sex* (r)

**11.50 Ellie & Natasia** Characters in this episode include a pair of vaping dominatrixes (4/6) (r)

**12.05am The Hit List.** Contestants from North Yorkshire, Blackpool and Livingston try to identify chart hits (r)

**12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead**

**12.55 BBC News.** The latest updates

**7.00 Cricket: Today at the Test**

England v South Africa. Action from the fifth and final day of the series-concluding third Test at The Kia Oval. England won by 239 runs when the teams last met here in this format

**8.00 Only Connect** Victoria Coren Mitchell hosts as the Peacocks take on Mothers Ruined

**8.30 University Challenge** The London School of Economics takes on University College, Oxford in a first-round match

**9.00 The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolsonaros** A look at Jair Bolsonaro's campaign for the 2018 presidential election, when he targeted the ever-growing number of Christian evangelicals in the country. See Viewing Guide (2/3)

**10.00 Frankie Boyle's Tour of Scotland** The comedian travels from Oban to Glasgow (4/4) (r)

**10.30 Newsnight** The day's important national and international news stories with Kirsty Wark

**11.15 FILM The Aftermath** (15, 2019) In post-war Hamburg, tensions arise for a British colonel and his wife after they move into a house with a German widower. Drama starring Keira Knightley, Alexander Skarsgård and Jason Clarke. See Film Choice

**12.55am Sign Zone: Countryfile.** Adam Henson and Margherita Taylor look back at farming 100 years ago at Cogges Farm in Oxfordshire (r) (SL) 1.55-2.55 Celebrity MasterChef. The successful cooks from the heats take part in the semi-final (r) (SL)

**7.30 Emmerdale** Kim is shocked to learn Hazel has been involved in a car accident, and Laurel asks Jai to move back in

**8.00 Coronation Street** Leanne walks in to hear Toyah confessing to Spider that she lied to the police, and with Kelly by his side, Aadi tells Dev that they are planning to get married in Gretna Green

**9.00 The Suspect** Joe believes that there is a pattern to be found amongst all the coincidences and a breakthrough sets him on a new path of investigation, while Ruiz and Devi hit a roadblock. Drama with Aidan Turner. See Viewing Guide (3/5)

**10.00 ITV News at Ten:** followed by Weather

**10.30 Regional News; Weather**

**10.45 Police, Camera, Murder**

Unprecedented access reveals the critical role of digital forensics in modern murder investigations, beginning with the case of a schoolboy found stabbed in the street (r)

**11.45 All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite**

The latest hard-hitting action, featuring all of the biggest stars on the roster, including Adam Page, Chris Jericho, CM Punk and Jon Moxley

**1.25am Teleshopping** 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal (r) (SL) 3.50 Unwind with ITV 5.05 Tenable. Quiz show (r) (SL)

**7.00 Channel 4 News Including sport and weather**

**8.00 Food Unwrapped** Matt Tebbutt unbottles the mystery of wine sulphites and hangovers

**8.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders** Jamie knocks out a flavour-packed, simple gnocchi supper and giant spicy meatballs

**9.00 24 Hours in A&E** A patient with a rare condition is rushed in to St George's, struggling to breathe. Her husband tells the story of their child's struggle with leukemia

**10.00 Second Hand for 50 Grand** A fashion model is after a luxury bag to celebrate the birth of her daughter, and a boxer is going to treat himself to a new watch if he wins his next bout

**11.05 Naked Attraction** Anna Richardson hosts the dating show, inviting a 26-year-old dog groomer and a 26-year-old self-confessed "bad girl" to select their perfect partners (r)

**12.10am First Dates Hotel** (r) 1.05 999: On the Front Line – Heart Attacks (r) 1.55 FILM Manusangada (12, 2017)

3.35 Grand Designs: The Streets (r) (SL) 4.25 Sarah Beeny's New Life in the Country (r) (SL) 5.20 The Great Home Transformation (r) (SL)

**7.00 Police Interceptors** A dangerous driver leads officers on a half-hour, white-knuckle ride across Nottinghamshire, with the suspect repeatedly avoiding the stinger (r)

**7.55 5 News Update**

**8.00 Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders** An officer makes his way to the scene of a collision on the A6, where a tired driver has fallen asleep at the wheel and crashed his car into a lamp post (9/10); followed by 5 News Update

**9.00 Can't Eat, Can't Heat: Who's Going to Sort It, and How?** (r) Jeremy Vine chairs a discussion on the cost of living crisis, putting members of the public face-to-face with those they feel are to blame. See Viewing Guide

**10.00 Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts** A doctor treats an 85-year-old woman who is struggling for breath and has a racing heart, and a 10-year-old arrives in the hospital after chopping off the tip of his finger (r)

**11.05 999: Critical Condition** A woman is admitted to Stoke's Royal University Hospital with life-threatening head injuries sustained in a car accident, and the clinical director must make split-second critical decisions (1/12) (r)

**12.05am Police Interceptors** (r) 1.00 Live NFL: Monday Night Football – Seattle Seahawks v Denver Broncos 4.30 Entertainment News on 5 4.40 Wildlife SOS (r) (SL) 5.30 Peppa Pig (r) (SL) 5.35 Paw Patrol (r) (SL) 5.50 Fireman Sam (r)

# Monday 12 | Primetime digital guide

FV Freeview FS Freesat

## TalkTV

FV 237, FS 217, SKY 526, VIRGIN 627

**6.00am James Max** An insight into the day's top stories  
**6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show**  
**10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham** The host tears his way through the morning newspapers  
**1.00pm Ian Collins** Hard-hitting monologues and debates  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz**  
**7.00 The News Desk with Tom Newton Dunn** The biggest stories of the day  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's global events  
**9.00 The Talk** Sharon Osbourne and a panel of famous faces debate the hot topics everybody's talking about  
**10.00 Daisy McAndrew** The host is joined by journalists and commentators to discuss the day's big stories  
**11.00-12.00am Piers Morgan Uncensored**

## BBC3

FV 23, FS 179, SKY 117, VIRGIN 107

**7.00pm Top Gear** Freddie, Chris and Paddy go on a road trip in 200mph supercars (2/5)  
**8.00 Dubai Hustle** The youngest broker at the firm makes a first impression (2/4)  
**8.30 Nail Bar Boys** The work of six British-Vietnamese male manicurists (1/3)  
**9.00 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next** The rising trend of harmless images being turned into hardcore porn, footage often used against the people depicted with devastating consequences  
**10.00 Ladhood** Having secured a promotion, Liam is morally compromised (3/6)  
**10.25 Laugh Lessons**  
**10.30 World Championship Boxing: Marshall v Shields: The Undisputed Women's Middleweight Title**  
**11.00 Cuckoo** (2/7)  
**11.25 Cuckoo** (3/7)  
**11.50-12.20am Dubai Hustle** (2/4)

## BBC4

FV 9/24, FS 173, SKY 116, VIRGIN 108

**7.00pm Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection** The collection of art and decorative objects amassed by monarchs over the past 500 years (1/4)  
**8.00 Art of Persia** Samira Ahmed explores the people, culture and history of Iran (1/3)  
**9.00 Mars: A Traveller's Guide: Horizon** The world's leading experts discuss where they would go on Mars if they had the chance (13/15)  
**10.00 The Sky at Night** The team explores the world of astrophotography  
**10.30 8 Days: To the Moon and Back** Dramatised documentary about the Apollo 11 mission, featuring declassified cockpit audio  
**12.00-1.00am A Very British History** The Vietnamese refugees who came to Britain in the 1970s and '80s. Last in the series (4/4)

## More 4

FV 18, FS 124, SKY 136, VIRGIN 147

**6.55pm Escape to the Château** The start of the wedding season sees Dick Strawbridge and Angel Adoree at their busiest, with events booked all through the summer (3/8)  
**7.55 The Yorkshire Dales and the Lakes** Carlton-in-Coverdale villagers make final preparations for the Tour de Yorkshire (8/10)  
**9.00 Devon and Cornwall** Two friends try to turn a passion for retro powerboats into racing glory and prizes. Last in the series (4/4)  
**10.00 Holidays from Hell: Caught on Camera** Cameras reveal what can go wrong when a dream holiday turns into a nightmare  
**11.05-12.05am 24 Hours in A&E** An actor receives worrying news while visiting St George's with a suspected broken shoulder (3/8)

## Sky Atlantic

SKY 108

**6.50pm The Sopranos** A dancer having an affair with Ralph enrages him when she insults him, leading Tony to take retribution, while Meadow's social life at college takes a sudden turn for the worse (6/13) (R)  
**7.55 Game of Thrones** Joffrey's rule prompts the people of King's Landing to riot, Qhorin gives Jon a chance to prove himself, and Daenerys vows to reclaim what she believes is rightfully hers (6/10) (R)  
**9.00 House of the Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel following the story of House Targaryen, set 200 years before the events of the fantasy saga. Matt Smith and Paddy Considine star. See Viewing Guide (4/10)  
**10.05 Gangs of London** (4/9) (R)  
**11.10-12.15am House of the Dragon** With Matt Smith (4/10) (R)

## Milly Alcock

The actress plays Princess Rhaenyra Targaryen in House of the Dragon  
**Sky Atlantic, 9pm**



## Sky Documentaries

SKY 121, VIRGIN 278

**7.00pm Catch and Kill: The Podcast** Tapes Ronan Farrow's intimate, revealing interviews with whistleblowers and journalists (1/6) (R)  
**7.30 Catch and Kill: The Podcast** Ken Auletta and Kim Masters discuss their years-long quests to expose Harvey Weinstein (2/6) (R)  
**8.00 The Vietnam War** Ken Burns's acclaimed series telling the epic story of the Vietnam War, bringing the war and the chaotic epoch it encompassed viscerally to life (1/10) (R)  
**9.00 Chernobyl: The Lost Tapes** Newly discovered archive footage and witness accounts reveal the story behind the 1986 nuclear disaster (R)  
**10.50-11.00am FILM Val (12, 2021)** An intimate portrait of the actor Val Kilmer

## ITV2

FV 6, FS 113, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**7.00pm Secret Crush** New series. The comedian Verona Rose returns with the dating game show  
**8.00 Bob's Burgers** Tina volunteers at a nursing home  
**8.30 Bob's Burgers**  
**9.00 Family Guy** Stewie fears that he has a terminal case of cooties  
**9.30 American Dad!**  
**10.00 Family Guy**  
**10.30 Family Guy**  
**11.00 Family Guy**  
**11.30 American Dad!**  
**12.00-1.30am Bob's Burgers**

## ITV3

FV 10, FS 115, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**7.00pm Heartbeat** A clairvoyant gives a bride-to-be cold feet about her imminent nuptials  
**8.00 Endeavour** The detective has been assigned to a quiet rural area, but is reunited with his former CID colleagues when he discovers the body of a missing schoolgirl (1/4)  
**10.00 The Bay** Shazia's explosive revelation threatens to destroy the Rahman family (5/6)  
**11.05-12.10am The Bay** Jenn remains determined to find out the truth about Saif's murder (6/6)

## ITV4

FV 26, FS 117, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**6.55pm Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?** Quiz show  
**7.55 The Chase Celebrity Special** Jacqui Oatley, Dev Griffin, Fallon Sherrock and Johnny Vegas take on one of the Chasers (2/12)  
**9.00 FILM Windtalkers (15, 2002)** A traumatised American soldier is assigned to protect two Navajo code-carriers during the invasion of Saipan. Drama with Nicolas Cage  
**11.45-2.00am FILM Alien 3 (18, 1992)** Sci-fi thriller sequel starring Sigourney Weaver

## E4

FV 13, FS 122, SKY 135, VIRGIN 106

**7.00pm Hollyoaks** Warren finally finds out that his son ran him over  
**7.30 The Big Bang Theory**  
**8.00 Below Deck: Mediterranean** Reality show following the lives of crew members working and residing aboard a superyacht (1/13)  
**9.00 FILM Windtalkers (15, 2002)** A traumatised American soldier is assigned to protect two Navajo code-carriers during the invasion of Saipan. Drama with Nicolas Cage  
**11.00 Celeb Cooking School** Melvin Odomo hosts as the contestants roast a chicken (3/8)  
**11.05-12.10am Gogglebox**

## Dave

FV 19, FS 157, SKY 111

**7.00pm Richard Osman's House of Games** Quiz testing the general knowledge of four celebrities  
**7.40 Room 101** With Miranda Hart, Reggie Yates and John Craven  
**8.20 Would I Lie to You?**  
**9.00 QI XL** With panellists Bill Bailey, Jo Brand and Greg Davies  
**10.00 Question Team** With Jo Brand, Thanya Moore, Josh Pugh and special guest Bill Bailey  
**11.00 Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You** Frank Skinner hosts  
**12.00-12.40am Mock the Week**

## Drama

FV 20, FS 158, SKY 143, VIRGIN 130

**6.40pm 'Allo 'Allo!** Rene arranges his own funeral. Gorden Kaye stars  
**7.20 Last of the Summer Wine** The friends are offered the chance to become wealthy  
**8.00 Miss Marple** The shrewd spinster is sent to convalesce in Barbados, where she finds life decidedly dull, until a double murder breaks the monotony  
**10.20 New Tricks** The team reinvestigates the mysterious 1956 disappearance of a police officer  
**11.40-1.00am Spooks**

## Yesterday

FV 27, FS 159, SKY 155, VIRGIN 129

**7.00pm Abandoned Engineering** A fuel plant in Poland built to make Nazi Germany self-sufficient  
**8.00 Abandoned Engineering** Exploring a Second World War espionage base, hidden in the Rock of Gibraltar  
**9.00 The Buildings That Fought Hitler** Rob Bell explores the coastal defence network (1/8)  
**10.00 Bangers and Cash** (8/10)  
**11.00 Abandoned Engineering**  
**12.00-1.00am The Architecture of Railways Built** (1/10)

## PBS America

FV 84, FS 155, SKY 174, VIRGIN 273

**6.40pm In Search of Medieval Britain** Dr Alixe Bovey travels west from Gloucester to Wales (2/6)  
**7.20 Flood in the Desert** Exploring the 1928 St Francis Dam collapse  
**8.30 The Vietnam War South** Vietnamese forces fighting on their own in Laos suffer a defeat (9/10)  
**10.50 Flood in the Desert** Exploring the 1928 St Francis Dam collapse, the second deadliest disaster in California's history  
**12.00-12.40am In Search of Medieval Britain** (1/6)

## Smithsonian

FV 57, FS 175, SKY 171, VIRGIN 276

**7.00pm Inside the Factory** The team investigates the production of biscuits  
**8.00 Food Factories: How They Work** Examining manufacturing machines and processes  
**9.00 Food Factories: How They Work** Ingenious machines that keep Britain hydrated  
**10.00 Inside the Factory**  
**11.00 Food Factories: How They Work** With Gregg Wallace  
**12.00-1.00am Food Factories: How They Work**

## Sky Arts

FV 11, FS 147, SKY 130, VIRGIN 165

**7.00pm Inside Art: The Rules of Art?** Exploring the exhibition at National Museum Cardiff  
**7.30 FILM André Rieu: Together Again (2021)** A concert of music from around the world  
**10.05 Mystery of the Lost Paintings** The experts attempt to digitally reconstruct Monet's Water Lilies, a much-loved painting that was destroyed in a fire (2/8)  
**11.05-12.05am Comedy Legends** Barry Cryer pays tribute to the comedian and actor Billy Crystal

## Sky History

SKY 123, VIRGIN 270

**7.00pm Forged in Fire**  
**8.00 American Pickers** A California almond farm serves up a hidden stash of surf shop relics  
**9.00 Britain's Greatest Obsessions** with Harry Hill New series. The comedian reflects on British passions. See Viewing Guide (1/6)  
**10.00 Cracking the Code** The criminal gangs across the world using highly encrypted phones to stay under the radar (5/8)  
**11.00 Britain's Most Historic Towns**  
**12.00-1.00am What on Earth?**

## Sky Max

SKY 113, VIRGIN 122

**7.00pm Stargate SG-1** (2/2) Jackson is enslaved by the Goa'uld  
**8.00 Resident Alien** Asta is concerned that Harry might be building another bomb (4/8)  
**9.00 COBRA: Cyberwar** The cyber-attack continues to jam communications (2/6)  
**10.00 Brassic** The gang heads to Wales for Ringo and Babs' wedding  
**11.00-12.05am A League of Their Own** With guests Aaron Ramsdale, Michael Sheen, Alex Brooker and Emily Atack taking part in the quiz

## Discovery

SKY 125, VIRGIN 250

**7.00pm Junkyard Empire**  
**8.00 Railroad Alaska**  
**9.00 Wheeler Dealers** New series. Mike gets an unusual tip  
**10.00 Chasing Classic Cars** The Tupelo Automobile Museum auction off their entire collection  
**11.00 Yukon Men** Documentary  
**12.00-1.00am The Alaska Triangle**

## Nat Geographic

SKY 129, VIRGIN 266, BT 351

**7.00pm Air Crash Investigation**  
**8.00 Air Crash Investigation: Special Report** Acts of sabotage  
**9.00 Running Wild with Bear Grylls** The Challenge Bear Grylls teaches Anthony Anderson skills  
**10.00 Wicked Tuna**  
**11.00 Air Crash Investigation** 12.00-1.00am Car SOS (6/9)

## Sky Comedy

SKY 114, VIRGIN 135, BT 346

**7.00pm Everybody Hates Chris**  
**7.30 The Office (US)**  
**8.00 The Office (US)**  
**8.30 The Office (US)**  
**9.00 Last Week Tonight with John Oliver** News and pop culture  
**9.40 Black Monday** Double bill  
**11.00-12.15am Real Time with Bill Maher** A look at the week's events

## Comedy Central

SKY 112, VIRGIN 181, BT 344

**7.00pm Friends** Four episodes  
**9.00 Guessable?** With Alex Horne, Lou Sanders and Roman Kemp  
**10.00 Rhod Gilbert's Growing Pains** With guests Joe Thomas, Paul Sinha and Maisie Adam  
**11.00 Ridiculousness**  
**12.00-12.30am South Park**

## Gold

SKY 110, VIRGIN 124

**6.40pm Dad's Army**  
**7.20 Dad's Army**  
**8.00 Only Fools and Horses**  
**9.20 Bottom**  
**10.00 Bottom**  
**10.40 This Time with Alan Partridge**  
**11.20-12.15am Christmas with the Royle Family** Denise starts labour

## W

FV 25, FS 156, SKY 132

**7.00pm MasterChef Australia** Andy opens a mystery box  
**8.00 Inside the Ambulance: Coast and Country**  
**9.00 DIY SOS: Celebrating 20 Years** With Nick Knowles  
**10.20 The Undateables**  
**11.20-12.20am Dating With My Mates** Reality contest



Tyler Adams of Leeds United could face Nottingham Forest (Sky Main Event, 7pm)

## Sky Cricket

SKY 404, VIRGIN 514

**10.15am Live Test Cricket: England v South Africa** The fifth and final day of the series-concluding third Test, held at The Kia Oval  
**7.00pm Live MNF: Leeds United v Nottingham Forest** (Kick-off 8.00). Coverage of the Premier League encounter at Elland Road  
**11.00-12.00pm Sky Sports News** Round-up of the latest stories  
**1.00-4.30am Live NFL: Seattle Seahawks v Denver Broncos** (Kick-off 1.15). Coverage of the week one match at Lumen Field

## BT Sport 1

SKY 413, VIRGIN 527, BT 431

**6.30pm Ligue 1 Highlights** A look back at all the recent action  
**7.30 Live Serie A** An Italian top-flight match (Kick-off TBA)  
**9.45 Currie Club** Darrell Currie looks back at Rangers' 2021/22 UEFA Europa League campaign  
**10.15 Sport in Focus** With rugby union player Maro Itoje  
**10.00 Test Cricket** England v South Africa. Highlights of day five of the third Test from The Kia Oval  
**11.00 Test Cricket Bitesize**  
**11.15-12.00pm Best of England v South Africa** The fourth Test in 2005

## BT Sport 2

SKY 414, VIRGIN 528, BT 431

**6.00pm Live MLB: Miami Marlins v Texas Rangers** (Start-time 6.10). Coverage of the inter-league match at Marlins Park  
**9.30 BT Sport Goals Reload**  
**10.00 WRC Review**  
**11.00 World Rallycross**  
**Championship Highlights** Action from the World RX of Latvia in Riga  
**12.00-3.30am Live MLB: Toronto Blue Jays v Tampa Bay Rays** (Start-time 12.07). Coverage of the American League East match at Rogers Centre

## Film guide

### Film4

FV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428

#### 11.00am Vertigo (PG, 1958)

Hitchcock thriller starring James Stewart and Kim Novak  
**1.40pm The Weaker Sex (U, 1948)** Second World War drama starring Ursula Jeans  
**3.20 The War Lover (PG, 1962)** Second World War drama starring Steve McQueen and Robert Wagner



A Journal for Jordan (Sky Cinema Premiere, 5.35pm)

#### 9.00 Commando (18, 1985)

Action adventure starring Arnold Schwarzenegger  
**10.50-1.25am Snowpiercer (15, 2013)** Fantasy thriller starring Chris Evans

### TCM Movies

SKY 315 VIRGIN 415

#### 6.00am Get Some In!

**6.30 Woman on the Run (PG, 1950)** Comedy starring Ann Sheridan and Robert Keith

**8.05 Dreamboat (U, 1952)** Comedy starring Ginger Rogers and Clifton Webb  
**9.50 The Strange Woman (PG, 1946)** Period drama starring Hedy Lamarr  
**11.50 Between the Tides 1958**  
**12.15pm Web of Evidence (PG, 1959)** Crime thriller starring Van Johnson

#### 2.00 Rooms

**3.00 The Ship that Died of Shame (PG, 1955)** Drama with Richard Attenborough and George Baker

**5.00 The Footage Detectives**  
**6.00 The Browning Version (U, 1951)** Drama starring Michael Redgrave

#### 7.50 Look at Life

**8.00 Gideon's Way**  
**9.00 Rita, Sue and Bob Too (18, 1987)** Comedy starring Siobhan Finneran and Michelle Holmes

**10.45 Look at Life**  
**11.00-12.05am Secret Army**

### GREAT! Movies

FV 34 FS 302 SKY 321 VIRGIN 425

#### 9.00am The Nightmare Nanny (12, 2013)

Thriller starring Ashley Scott  
**10.50 GREAT! Movie News**

**11.00 Black Widow (2007)** Drama with Elizabeth Berkley  
**12.50pm GREAT! Movie News**

**1.00 White Hot: A Sandra Brown Mystery (PG, 2016)** Crime drama starring Shenea Grimes-Beech

**2.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**3.00 Too Late to Say Goodbye (PG, 2009)** Drama

starring Stefanie von Pfetten  
**4.45 Running Wild (PG, 1995)** Fact-based adventure starring Brooke Shields

**6.50 Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (PG, 2014)** Fantasy comedy sequel

## Radio guide

### Times Radio

Digital only

#### 5.00am Anna Cunningham with Early Breakfast 6.00

Aasmah Mir and Stig Abell with Times Radio Breakfast  
**10.00 Matt Chorley 1.00pm** Mariella Frostrup 4.00 John Pienaar at Drive 7.00 Henry Bonus 10.00 Carole Walker 1.00am Stories of Our Times 1.30 Red Box 2.00 Highlights from Times Radio

### Radio 2

FM: 88.90.2 MHz

#### 6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show

Sara Dallin picks tracks 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jeremy Vine 2.00pm Steve Wright 5.00 Sara Cox 7.00 Jo Whiley's Shiny Happy Playlist 7.30 Jo Whiley 9.00 Blues Show 10.00 Trevor Nelson's Magnificent 7 10.30 Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation 12.00 OJ Borg 3.00am Pick of the Pops (r) 4.00 Early Breakfast Show

### Radio 3

FM: 90.2-92.4 MHz

#### 6.30am Breakfast

9.00 Essential Classics 12.00 Composer of the Week: Bruckner Donald Macleod profiles Anton Bruckner 1.00pm Live Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert A recital by Christoph Prégardien and Michael Gees. Schubert (*Nachtstück*, D672; *An mein Herz*, D860; *Der Einsame*, D800; *Die Mutter Erde*, D788; *An den Mond*, D259; and *Rastlose Liebe*, D138); Brahms (*Dein blaues Auge hält so still*, Op 59 No 8; *Von ewiger Liebe*, Op 43 No 1; *Feldeinsamkeit*, Op 86 No 2; *Wir rafft iich mich auf*, Op 32 No 1; and *Auf dem Kirchhof*, Op 105 No 4); and Mahler (*Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*)

#### 2.00 Afternoon Concert

Zelenka (Overture from Overture-Suite in F, ZWV 188); Elgar (Cello Concerto in E minor); Dvořák (Symphony No 9 in E minor, Op 95; *From the New World*); and R Strauss (*Don Juan*, Op 20)

#### 4.30 New Generation Artists

#### 5.00 In Tune

#### 7.00 In Tune Mixtape

#### 7.30 Radio 3 in Concert

The SWR Symphony Orchestra of Stuttgart perform.

Rachmaninov (*Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*, Op 43); and Prokofiev (*Cinderella*, Op 87)

**9.30 Northern Drift** With the poet Shirley May and the folk duo Bryony and Alice

**10.00 Music Matters** With the soprano Lise Davidsen (r)

#### 10.45 The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language

Examining the history, layers and nuances of British Sign Language (r)

#### 11.00 Night Tracks

**10.00-12.05am Scream (18, 2022)** A new killer dons the Ghostface mask and targets a group of teenagers. Horror sequel with Neve Campbell

### Today's pick

#### The Boy in the Woods Radio 4, 1.45pm

In 1994 six-year-old Rikki Neave, right, was found in woodlands near his home in Peterborough, naked and with his lifeless body grimly posed in a star shape. More horrifically Rikki's mother was charged and acquitted of his killing before the real culprit was brought to justice. The story was also the subject of a two-part Channel 4 documentary this summer but presenter Winifred Robinson, who has been



following this case for more than 20 years, brings a more personal touch to the story. In this ten-part series she sees Rikki's tragedy as emblematic of the way we treat vulnerable children. Ben Dowell

### Radio 4

FM: 92.4-94.6 MHz  
 LW: 198 kHz MW: 720 kHz

#### 5.30am News Briefing

5.43 Prayer for the Day 5.45 Farming Today 5.58 Tweet of the Day (r)

#### 6.00 Today

#### 9.00 Start the Week

New series. From the Contains Strong Language Festival

#### 9.45 Book of the Week: A Visible Man

By Edward Enninful (1/5)

#### 9.45 (LW) Daily Service

#### 10.00 Woman's Hour

#### 10.45-7.00pm (LW) Live Test Match Special: England v South Africa

Day five of the third Test at the Oval

#### 11.00 Room 5 (r)

#### 11.30 The Frost Tapes

Michael Caine tells his story

#### 12.01pm (LW) Shipping

#### 12.04 You and Yours

#### 1.00 The World at One

#### 1.45 The Boy in the Woods

New series. The 1994 murder of Rikki Neave. See Choice

#### 2.00 The Archers (r)

#### 2.15 This Cultural Life (r)

#### 3.00 Brain of Britain

#### 3.30 The Food Programme (r)

#### 4.00 My Space (r)

#### 4.30 Beyond Belief

#### 5.00 PM

#### 5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast

#### 6.00 Six O'Clock News

#### 6.30 Mark Steel's in Town

#### 7.00 The Archers

Tracy realises she's made a mistake

#### 7.15 Front Row

#### 8.00 Ugandan Asians: The Reckoning Documentary

#### 8.30 Crossing Continents (r)

#### 9.00 The Spark (4/4) (r)

#### 9.30 Start the Week (r)

#### 10.00 The World Tonight

#### 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid

By Nita Prose (6/10)

#### 11.00 In Suburbia (r)

#### 11.30 Today in Parliament

#### 12.00 News and Weather

#### 12.30am Book of the Week:

A Visible Man (1/5) (r)

#### 12.48 Shipping Forecast

#### 1.00 As BBC World Service

Radio 5 Live

MW: 693,909

#### 5.00am Wake Up to Money

#### 6.00 5 Live Breakfast

## Monday 12

#### 6.30 A Good Read 7.00

Round the Horne 7.30 Yes

Minister 8.00 Some Mother's Son 8.30 Agatha Raisin 9.00

TED Radio Hour 9.50

Inheritance Tracks 10.00

Comedy Club: Mark Steel's in Town 10.30 Rubbish 10.55

The Comedy Club Interview 11.00 The News Quiz 11.30

The Wilson Dixon Line

### BBC World Service

Digital only

#### 8.50am Witness History 9.06

The Climate Question 9.30

CrowdScience 10.00 News

10.06 The Cultural Frontline

10.30 Dear Daughter 10.50

More or Less 11.00 The

Newsroom 11.30 The

Conversation 12.00 News

12.06pm Outlook 12.50

Witness History 1.00

The Newsroom 1.30

CrowdScience 2.00

Newshour 3.00 News 3.06

HARDtalk 3.30 Business 4.00

BBC OS 6.00 News 6.06

Outlook 6.50 Witness History

7.00 The Newsroom 7.30

Sport Today 8.06 The

Climate Question 8.30

Discovery 9.00 Newshour

10.00 News 10.06 HARDtalk

10.30 The Conversation

11.00 The Newsroom 11.20

Sports News 11.30 Business

12.00 News 12.06am The

History Hour 1.00 News 1.06

Business Matters 2.00 The

Newsroom 2.30 The

Documentary 3.00 News

3.06 Outlook 3.50 Witness

History 4.00 The Newsroom

4.30 In the Studio

### 6 Music

Digital only

#### 7.30am Lauren Laverne

#### 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs

#### 1.00pm Craig Charles

#### 4.00 Steve Lamacq 7.00 Tom

Robinson 9.00 Gideon Coe

12.00 The First Time with

Björk 1.00am The Story of

Björk 2.00 Björk Live

### Virgin Radio

Digital only

#### 8.00am Round the Horne

#### 8.30 Yes Minister 9.00

#### Dilemma 9.30 Country

#### Matters 10.00 The No.1

#### Ladies' Detective Agency

#### 10.45 Short Works 11.00 TED

#### Radio Hour 11.50 Inheritance

#### Tracks 12.00 Round the

#### Horne 12.30pm Yes Minister

#### 1.00 Some Mother's Son

#### 1.30 Agatha Raisin 2.00

Adventures of a Young

Naturalist 2.15 Eleanor

Rising 2.30 Fowles in Dorset

3.00 The No.1 Ladies'

Detective Agency 3.45 Short

Works 4.00 Dilemma 4.30

Country Matters 5.00

Hazelbeach 5.30 Mark Steel's

in Town 6.00 Journey into

Space: Operation Luna

### Classic FM

FM: 100-102 MHz

#### 6.00am More Music

#### Breakfast 9.00 Alexander

#### Armstrong 12.00 Anne-Marie

#### Minhall 4.00pm John

#### Brunning 7.00 Smooth

Classics. Zeb Soanes presents

10.00 Smooth Classics. With

Margherita Taylor 1.00am

Karthi Gnanasegaram

4.00 Early Breakfast

# Tuesday 13 | Viewing guide

## Critic's choice

### The Great British Bake Off

Channel 4, 8pm

As the nights get shorter and money gets tighter, the warming comforts of *Bake Off*'s ovens return. Gas prices? What gas prices? The action returns to the grounds of Welford Park, after finding a temporary home in Essex in the past two Covid-blasted years. Not that you would notice. The tent, set-piece comedy routines and diverse array of contestants are the same as ever, with a *Star Wars*-themed opening montage designed purely to allow the judges Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith and comedian presenters Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas, right, to cover the full gamut of punning: there's Luke Piewalker (Lucas), Princess Leia Cake (Fielding), Pruebacca (Leith) and, of course, Darth Baker (Hollywood). The main point of the opening episode is to introduce the dozen bakers as they embark on the

traditional three challenges. Tonight's signature calls for 12 perfect mini cakes, while the technical is a layered red velvet cake. For the showstopper they have to make a scaled-down, sponge version of a home close to their hearts. Already standing out from the cast is Sandro, a fitness enthusiast from London who works as a nanny and, on the evidence of his first effort, clearly knows how to handle himself in the kitchen. Carole, a supermarket cashier, also comes to the fore, with her colourful hair and strong Dorset accent; we're told she is affectionately known as "Compost Carole" because of her love of gardening. Then there is Dawn, who reveals that she worked as a "former project manager for Boris Johnson". You know, the former prime minister (sorry). Ben Dowell



## Fake or Fortune?

BBC1, 8pm

Could a painting depicting Christ after his death on the cross that is hanging in a Roman Catholic church in Port Glasgow be a lost masterpiece by one of the great painters of the Northern Renaissance? It is one of the toughest challenges yet for Fiona Bruce and the art expert Philip Mould – the 16th century is a notoriously difficult period to investigate because many works from this time exist without attribution. It's also a moving story because the search involves Marjorie Macdonald, the widow of the art historian Ian Macdonald, who died last year and was convinced for decades that this was an important piece. BD

## Storyville: Gorbachev. Heaven

BBC4, 9pm

In a quiet house outside Moscow a cat stretches and the former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is asleep in front of a TV programme showing him meeting Ronald Reagan. Vitaly Mansky's elegiac film follows Gorbachev, who died last month, reflecting on his achievements. As 2020 is heralded on television by President Putin, Gorbachev watches silently. He has told us that he is free to speak his mind, but here he merely repeats the word "freedom" from the Russian national anthem and says that he brought it to his country. BD

## The Pyrenees with Michael Portillo

Channel 5, 9pm

Michael Portillo is in the Catalonian Pyrenees for a very personal end to his mountain adventure. In 1939 his father, Luis Gabriel Portillo Perez, fled through these mountains as a refugee from the Spanish Civil War and, in the tiny village of La Vajol, the former defence secretary meets a woman whose family also escaped via that route. "I hope [my father] might think that my coming here is a tribute to him and to his suffering," says Portillo, who, nearing 70, has endured hardships on this journey while bringing great warmth, charm and wisdom. BD

## Irma Vep

Sky Atlantic/Now, 9pm

It's the penultimate episode of Olivier Assayas's meta remake of a film about a remake, and things are getting wild. The unstable director René (Vincent Macaigne) has left the project, but everyone believes that he will return in some form. The film is his vision, even though he appears to have paid a high price for it with an apparent breakdown. Meanwhile, Mira (Alicia Vikander) seems to be up to all sorts, prancing around in her catsuit and vanishing through doors, kissing her assistant and becoming emboldened in strange ways. Next week's final episode is called *The Terrible Wedding*, so expect all sorts. BD

## Films of the day

### A Hidden Life (12, 2019)

Film4, 11.15pm

"Show a little humour," the protagonist is told at the start of *A Hidden Life*. Fat chance, mate, this is a Terrence Malick film – gobsmacking camerawork, dreamlike editing, whispering dialogue and poetic ruminations, sure, but if you're after gags you have come to the wrong place. It's based on the story of Franz Jägerstätter (August Diehl, below with Valerie Pachner), a farmer who lived with his family in Radegund, an idyllic corner of Upper Austria. At the time Austrians had to swear loyalty to Hitler, who is featured in archive footage, but Jägerstätter refuses, and again when he is called up. His rejection of the Nazis is laudable yet his rigidity seems foolish. Jägerstätter was beatified by the Catholic Church, but even that seems scant reward. (174min) Ed Potton



## Regional programmes

- BBC1 Wales As BBC1 except: 10.40pm Ruck Stars 11.10-12.10am Ambulance (r)
- BBC2 Wales As BBC2 except: 1.45pm First Minister's Questions 2.35 Eggheads (r) 3.05 Flipping Profit (r) 3.50 Wanted: A Simple Life (r) 4.35 The Best Dishes Ever (r) 4.45-5.30 Murder, Mystery and My Family. The case against a farm labourer charged with murder (r)
- BBC1 NI Ireland As BBC1 except: 10.40pm The Motorcycle Mavericks 11.40 Ambulance (r) 12.45am Question of Sport (r) 1.15 The Dark Side of Direct Sales (r) 1.45-6.00 BBC News
- BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 except: 7.00pm-7.30 River City (r) 10.40 Disclosure 11.10-12.10am Ambulance (r)
- ITV Wales As ITV except: 10.45pm Face to Face 11.10-12.05am The Thief, His Wife and the Canoe: The Real Story (r)
- STV As ITV except: 10.30pm STV News 10.40 Scotland Tonight 11.05 Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera (r) 12.00-12.30am Teleshopping 3.50-5.05 Unwind with STV
- BBC Scotland 7.00pm Getting Hitched Asian Style (r) 8.00 Paramedics on Scene (r) 9.00 The Nine 10.00 Inside Central Station (r) 10.00-Midnight Rip It Up (r)
- S4C 6.00am Cyw: Peppa (r) 6.05 Jen a Jim Bob Dim (r) 6.20 Y Brod yr Coala (r)
- 6.30 Dwylwr Enffys (r) 6.45 Caru Canu a Stori (r) 6.55 Shwshaswyn (r) 7.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni 7.15 Nico Nôg (r) 7.25 Pablo 7.40 Amser Maith Maith yn Ol (r) 8.00 Bing (r) 8.10 Wibwl Sochyn y Mochyn (r) 8.20 Y Diwrnod Mawr (r) 8.35 Digbi Draig (r) 8.45 Asrâl (r) 9.00 Olobobs (r) 9.05 Bleira yn Mynd i Oicada (r) 9.20 Jambori (r) 9.30 Gut Gwningwen (r) 9.45 Cacawnci (r) 10.00 Peppa (r) 10.05 Jen a Jim Bob Dim (r) 10.20 Y Brod yr Coala (r) 10.30 Dwylwr Enffys (r) 10.45 Caru Canu a Stori (r) 10.55 Shwshaswyn (r) 11.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni (r) 11.15 Nico Nôg (r) 11.25 Pablo (r) 11.40 Amser Maith Maith yn Ol (r) 12.00 News 12.05pm Pysgod i Bawb (r) 12.30 Heno (r) 1.00 Caeau Cymru (r) 1.30 Cefn Gwlad (r) 2.00 News 2.05 Prynhawn Da 3.00 News 3.05 Yr Anialwch (r) 4.00 Awr Fawr: Olobobs (r) 4.05 Jambori (r) 4.15 Ein Byd Bach Ni (r) 4.25 Pablo (r) 4.40 Amser Maith Maith yn Ol (r) 5.00 Stwrs: Y Brod yr Adrenalinî (r) 5.10 Rhwyddodau Chwilegwraig a Cath Ddu 5.35 Lolipop (r) 5.55 Feil 6.00 Dim Byd i w Wigso (r) 6.30 Sgorio (r) 6.57 News 84C 7.00 Heno 7.30 News 8.00 Pobol y Cwm 8.25 Rownd a Rownd 8.55 News 9.00 Gwesty Aduniad 10.00 Ogof Gwiddyr i Diafol 11.00-11.35 Codi Hwyl (r) (r) repeat (SL) In-vision signing

### The Dressmaker (12, 2015)

Channel 4, 2.20am

A mysterious stranger in a Dior-inspired frock whooshes into a dusty one-horse town in the Australian outback. She is played by Kate Winslet with *Gilda*-length satin gloves, blood-red lipstick and a Gloria Swanson-style cigarette holder. Followed closely by the local cross-dressing policeman (Hugo Weaving), Winslet scans the town. She drops a sewing machine at her feet, lights a cigarette and, to no one in particular, says: "I'm back, you bastards!" *The Dressmaker* is probably the first madcap couture-inspired revenge-western dress-fest. After a sputtering start it turns out to be idiosyncratically brilliant. It is in the kitsch Aussie tradition of *Muriel's Wedding*, *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* or even Jane Campion's *Sweetie*. (118min) Kevin Maher

## Catch up

### Afghanistan: Getting Out

BBC iPlayer

The decade between one of America's greatest foreign-policy triumphs and one of its most humiliating failures was one of turmoil, discord and broken promises. When Osama bin Laden was assassinated, Barack Obama rightly claimed it as a landmark achievement; when his vice-president took the White House and

oversaw the bungled withdrawal from Afghanistan (the result of Obama's arbitrary deadline) it sent out a calamitous message. This two-part documentary assesses how such strategies, including Donald Trump's assessment that US involvement in Afghanistan was a "complete disaster", sowed the seeds for the chaotic withdrawal under President Biden, left, five years later.

Gabriel Tate



**Also available online and on tablet**

Digital subscribers can now use our interactive seven-day guide with comprehensive listings of all TV channels  
[thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner](http://thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner)

**Tuesday 13****BBC1**

**6.00am Breakfast** 9.15 Morning Live  
**10.00 Dom Does America** (r) **10.45**  
 Claimed and Shamed (r) **11.15** Homes Under the Hammer **12.15pm** Bargain Hunt (r) **1.00** BBC News at One; Weather **1.30** BBC Regional News; Weather **1.45** Doctors. A vulnerable homeless man claims to have been assaulted by killer robots **2.15** Money for Nothing. Jacqui Joseph visits Earlswood Recycling Centre (r) **3.00** Escape to the Country. A couple search Powys for a house with an annexe for their parents **3.45** The Bidding Room (r) **4.30** Antiques Road Trip. Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott search Northamptonshire **5.15** Pointless. Quiz, hosted by Alexander Armstrong and Sally Lindsay **6.00** BBC News at Six; Weather **6.30** BBC Regional News; Weather



The final five celebrity chefs (9pm)

**7.00 The One Show** Alex Jones and Jermaine Jenas present the live magazine show

**7.30 EastEnders** Kat is less than pleased to see ex-husband Alfie

**8.00 Fake or Fortune?** The origins of a 17th-century painting of Christ having just been brought down from the cross, currently hanging in a Port Glasgow church. **See Viewing Guide**

**9.00 Celebrity MasterChef** The five remaining contenders begin finals week, serving up afternoon tea for 12 famous guests at Alexandra Palace, before making a dish inspired by their childhood

**10.00BBC News at Ten**

**10.30 BBC Regional News**

**10.40 Ambulance** Call handler Tracy takes a distressing call from an elderly woman who can no longer care for her husband alone. Simon and Jamie help a man with a head injury (5/6) (r)

**11.40 Question of Sport** A special edition celebrating 50 Years of Pride in the United Kingdom (r)

**12.10am The Dark Side of Direct Sales.** Lora Jones investigates the direct sales sector, which has evolved in the social media age, asking if workers are being exploited by practices in some of the firms (r) **12.40** Weather for the Week Ahead **12.45** BBC News

**BBC2**

**6.20am Money for Nothing** (r) **7.05** Antiques Road Trip (r) **7.50** Sign Zone: Nature's Weirdest Events (r) (SL) **8.20** Rat Woman: Our Lives (r) (SL) **8.50** Lifeline (r) **9.00** BBC News **10.00** BBC News **12.15pm** Politics Live **1.00** Chase the Case. Strategic game show hosted by Dan Walker (r) **1.45** Eggheads. Quiz show hosted by Jeremy Vine (r) **2.15** Glorious Gardens from Above. Christine Walkden takes to the skies above Sussex (r) **3.00** Flipping Profit. Raising money for Children in Need in St Andrews (r) **3.45** Wanted: A Simple Life. Chris Bavin helps a couple find a retirement home in East Sussex (r) **4.30** Murder, Mystery and My Family. The case against a farm labourer charged with murder (r) **5.15** Flog It! Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry (r)



England face a T20 test (5.30pm)

**5.30 Live Women's T20 Cricket: England v India** Coverage of the second match of the series, which comes from The Incora County Ground in Derby. The sides have not met in a T20 here since 2006, when India recorded a six-wicket victory, but England are currently a force to be reckoned with in this format and are second in the ICC Women's T20I Rankings, below only Australia and two places above today's opponents

**9.30 Inside the Factory XL: Diggers** Gregg Wallace and Cherry Healey get special access to a factory that makes as many as a hundred iconic yellow diggers every single day (r)

**10.30 Newsnight** Analysis of the day's events, with Kirsty Wark

**11.15 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling** The actor travels across his homeland with his friend Phil MacHugh (1/6) (r)

**11.45 FILM Sus** (15, 2010) Racist police detectives use brutal methods to force an innocent black man into confessing to murdering his wife. Drama set in the 1970s starring Clint Dyer

**1.15am Sign Zone: Celebrity MasterChef** (r) (SL) **2.45-3.45** Saving Lives at Sea (r) (SL)

**ITV**

**6.00am Good Morning Britain** **9.00** Lorraine **10.00** This Morning **12.30pm** Loose Women **1.30** ITV News; Weather **2.00** Dickinson's Real Deal. David Dickinson travels to Bridlington, East Yorkshire, assessing items brought in by members of the public. With Karen Dalmeny, Stewart Hofgartner, Jan Keyne and Fay Rutter **3.00** Tenable. A team of five quizzing friends answer questions about top 10 lists, then try to score a perfect 10 in the final round **4.00** Tipping Point. Ben Shephard hosts the arcade-themed quiz in which contestants drop tokens down a choice of four chutes in the hope of winning a £10,000 jackpot **5.00** The Chase. Quiz show hosted by Bradley Walsh **6.00** Regional News; Weather **6.30** ITV News; Weather



A repeat of the drama Vera (8pm)

**7.30 Emmerdale** The police show Kim definitive proof that Jamie is alive

**8.00 Vera** Long suffering DCI Vera Stanhope must unravel the mystery when well-respected local builder and family man Jim Tullman is found beaten to death on the steps of the Collingwood Monument. His demise happened just before he was due to testify in court as the key witness in a violent assault case. Crime drama starring Brenda Blethyn and Kenny Doughty (1/6) (r)

**10.00ITV News at Ten;** followed by Weather

**10.30 Regional News;** followed by Regional Weather

**10.45 The Thief, His Wife and the Canoe: The Real Story** Documentary about John Darwin, who faked his death in a canoeing accident and then started a new life in Panama (r)

**11.40 Heathrow: Britain's Busiest Airport** Passenger experience manager Demi deals with a medical emergency (8/12) (r)

**12.05am Teleshopping** **3.00** Take the Tower. Dolph Lundgren challenges team captain Kirsty, along with her daughter Lana and nephews Ronnie and Michael, to a series of games (r) (SL) **3.50** Unwind with ITV **5.05** Dickinson's Real Deal (r) (SL)

**Channel 4**

**6.10am Countdown** (r) **6.50** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.15** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **9.00** Frasier (r) **9.30** Frasier (r) **10.00** Frasier (r) **10.30** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (r) **11.25** Channel 4 News Summary **11.30** The Great House Giveaway (r) **12.30pm** Steph's Packed Lunch **2.10** Countdown **3.00** A Place in the Sun. Jasmine Harman helps a retired couple to find a new home on Lanzarote (r) **4.00** Château DIY. Ben and Vanessa rush to finish their new gin bar **5.00** Moneybags. Quiz, hosted by Craig Charles **6.00** The Simpsons. Bart is placed on medication (r) **6.30** Hollyoaks. Warren finally finds out that his son ran him over (r)



Lady Leshurr and Jones (10pm)

**7.00 Channel 4 News** Including sport and weather

**8.00 The Great British Bake Off** New series. Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas welcome 12 contestants into the tent, baking mini cakes and two sponges, including one in the shape of a house close to their hearts. **See Viewing Guide** (1/10)

**9.30 First Dates Hotel** Twins arrive at the Italian hotel on the lookout for love, while two women are paired on a date that proves opposites do attract

**10.30 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard** Rosie and rapper Lady Leshurr face a 418ft abseil challenge in Northampton, and prepare by going up in a microlight and taking part in an anti-gravity yoga class

**11.35 Gogglebox** The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their reactions (r)

**12.35am The Last Leg** (r) (SL) **1.30** The Simpsons (r) **1.55** The Simpsons (r) **2.20 FILM The Dressmaker** (12, 2015) Drama starring Kate Winslet. **See Film Choice** **4.15** Perfect House, Secret Location (r) (SL) **5.15** The Great Home Transformation (r) (SL)

**Channel 5**

**6.00am Milkshake!** **9.15** Jeremy Vine **12.45pm Holiday Homes in the Sun.** Properties in and around Bergerac **1.40** 5 News at Lunchtime **1.45** Home and Away. Felicity hurls abuse at the police who are keeping her imprisoned. Cash is bleeding out as Xander arrives in the ambulance, on duty **2.15 FILM Picture Perfect Mysteries: Dead Over Diamonds** (PG, TVM, 2020) Allie and Sam's investigation into a priceless stolen necklace leads to danger and an unexpected death. Crime drama starring Alexa PenaVega and Carlos PenaVega **4.00** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. Documentary following Brits who moved to Spain for sun and a low-cost life (r) **5.00** 5 News at 5 **6.00** Cash in the Attic. Helping people make money **6.55** 5 News Update



Portillo in the Pyrenees (9pm)

**7.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly** Graeme Hall treats a dog that has become aggressive towards other dogs after being attacked, and helps a cancer patient with a badly behaved golden retriever (2/10) (r) **7.55** 5 News Update

**8.00 The Yorkshire Vet** Peter Wright helps a pregnant cow that is expecting twins, and farmer Will is worried that neither calf will survive. Julian Norton meets a champion ferret with an infected foot (2/11); followed by 5 News Update

**9.00 The Pyrenees with Michael Portillo** The broadcaster retraces the route through the Catalonian Pyrenees his father used to flee in 1939 as a political refugee from the Spanish Civil War. **See Viewing Guide** (4/4)

**10.00 Getting Away with Murder: The Killing of Mary Gough** Documentary looking at the investigation into the death of Mary Gough, following the remarkable twists and turns of the Irish police's efforts to find out what happened to her, and how the investigation eventually turned into an international manhunt (r)

**12.05am Angel of Death: The Crimes of Beverley Allitt** (r) **1.00** The LeoVegas Live Casino Show **3.00** Entertainment News on 5 **3.05** Britain's Favourite Chocolate (r) **4.45** Amazing Cakes & Bakes (r) **5.30** Milkshake! Fun for children

# Tuesday 13 | Primetime digital guide

FV Freeview FS Freesat

## TalkTV

FV 237, FS 217, SKY 526, VIRGIN 627

**6.00am James Max**  
**6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show**  
**10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham** A look at the morning newspapers  
**1.00pm Ian Collins** Hard-hitting monologues and debates  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz** The presenter tackles the big stories of the day  
**7.00 The News Desk with Tom Newton Dunn** The biggest stories of the day  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's events  
**9.00 The Talk** Sharon Osbourne and a panel of famous faces debate the hot topics everybody's talking about  
**10.00 Daisy McAndrew** The host is joined by journalists and commentators to discuss the day's big stories  
**11.00-12.00m't Piers Morgan Uncensored**

## BBC3

FV 23, FS 179, SKY 117, VIRGIN 107

**7.00pm Top Gear (4/5)**  
**8.00 The Fast and the Farmer-ish** Teams compete to be the best tractor drivers (1/7)  
**8.30 The Fast and the Farmer-ish** Northern Ireland's Bogmen and Determinators rev up against each other (2/7)  
**9.00 Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die** Calum Best takes over the reins of Dorking Wanderers Ladies FC  
**9.30 Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die** Calum is tested for the first time in his role  
**10.00 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next** The rising trend of harmless images being turned into hardcore porn  
**11.00 This Country** Kerry's dad Martin is accused of being a Peeping Tom (5/6)  
**11.25 This Country** Kerry and Kurtan explore the possibility of moving away from their village (6/6)  
**11.50-12.15am Ladhood** (3/6)

## BBC4

FV 9/24, FS 173, SKY 116, VIRGIN 108

**7.00pm Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection** Andrew Graham-Dixon tells the story of the Royal Collection's resurrection (2/4)  
**8.00 Keeping Up Appearances** Emmet rehearses a musical production (7/10)  
**8.30 Ever Decreasing Circles** Paul buys a neighbour's house (3/6)  
**9.00 Gorbachev, Heaven:** Storyville A portrait of the late Mikhail Gorbachev, a hero to the west because of his policies of Glasnost and Perestroika, but blamed in his own country for destroying the Soviet empire. See Viewing Guide  
**10.40-12.10am Ted Hughes: Stronger Than Death** Examining how the poet's life shaped his work, including an interview with his daughter Frieda

## More 4

FV 18, FS 124, SKY 136, VIRGIN 147

**6.55pm Escape to the Château** Dick and Angel prepare for Angel's parents' 50th wedding anniversary (4/8)  
**7.55 The Yorkshire Dales and the Lakes** Dales craftsman Pete Roe repairs an industrial relic and rescues a sheep that has plunged into a pothole, while a Windermere duo take their first steps in running a guest house (9/10)  
**9.00 Chernobyl: The New Evidence** Using previously classified KGB documents, the second part of this film explores how far Soviet leaders were willing to go to cover up the Chernobyl disaster (2/2)  
**10.00 Japan's Tsunami: Caught on Camera** Amateur footage and eyewitness accounts  
**11.20-12.25am 24 Hours in A&E** A builder breaks his neck after falling off his shed (2/8)

## Sky Atlantic

SKY 108

**6.50pm The Sopranos** Tony's generosity in giving up his time with Dr Melfi pays off – but his feud with Ralph hits breaking point (8/13) (R)  
**7.55 Game of Thrones** Theon embarks on a hunt as he tries to prove his Ironborn status. Daenerys receives a useful invitation, and Jaime Lannister meets a relative among Robb Stark's captives (7/10) (R)  
**9.00 Irma Vep** Mira uses her newfound powers as Irma Vep to probe deeper into the lives of those around her, and experiences a spiritual breakthrough after a visit with Rene. See Viewing Guide (7/8) (R)  
**10.05 House of the Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel starring Paddy Considine (4/10) (R)  
**11.10-12.15am Munich Games** Political thriller, starring Yousef Sweid (1/6) (R)



## Creed II

Dolph Lundgren and Florian Munteanu star in the 2018 boxing drama sequel  
**ITV4, 9pm**

## Sky Documentaries

SKY 121, VIRGIN 278

**7.00pm Catch and Kill: The Podcast Tapes** Rowena Chiu speaks out about her experiences with Harvey Weinstein (3/6) (R)  
**7.30 Catch and Kill: The Podcast Tapes** Rich McHugh discusses producing the story with Ronan Farrow at NBC News (4/6) (R)  
**8.00 The Vietnam War** President Kennedy wrestles with how deeply to get involved in South Vietnam (2/10) (R)  
**9.00 The Last Movie Stars** Documentary chronicling the lives and careers of Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, examining their dedication to their art and each other (4/6) (R)  
**10.05-12.20am FILM JFK** Revisited: Through the Looking Glass (15, 2021) Documentary examining the assassination of US president John F Kennedy

## ITV2

FV 6, FS 113, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**7.00pm Secret Crush** Junior tells Jade he has had a crush on her for the last 10 years  
**8.00 Bob's Burgers**  
**8.30 Bob's Burgers**  
**9.00 Family Guy** Peter and his cronies decide to confront God  
**9.30 Family Guy** Chris learns he is the heir to Carter's fortune  
**10.00 Plebs (5/8)**  
**10.30 Plebs (6/8)**  
**11.00 Family Guy**  
**11.30 American Dad!**  
**11.55-12.25am American Dad!**

## ITV3

FV 10, FS 115, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**7.00pm Heartbeat** A mysterious marksman sharpens up his sniper skills on a flock of sheep  
**8.00 Martin Clunes: Islands of the Pacific** The actor and presenter begins his tour of the Pacific islands of French Polynesia, where he takes a trip on a Polynesian outrigger canoe (1/3)  
**9.00 Midsomer Murders A** wealthy landowner's body goes missing on the night of his death  
**11.00-12.05am Professor T** Crime drama starring Ben Miller (1/6)

## ITV4

FV 26, FS 117, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**7.00pm Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?** Big-prize quiz, hosted by Jeremy Clarkson  
**8.00 World Superbike Highlights** Action from Magny-Cours 9.00 FILM Creed II (12, 2018)  
**8.30 The Vietnam War** Heavyweight champion Adonis Creed faces off against Viktor, the son of Ivan Drago, whom his mentor fought in the 1980s. Drama starring Michael B Jordan  
**11.40-12.50am All Elite Wrestling: Rampage** Hard-hitting, high-flying wrestling action

## E4

FV 13, FS 122, SKY 135, VIRGIN 106

**7.00pm Hollyoaks** Sam confides in Lizzie and Ethan, who encourage him to come clean to Zoe  
**7.30 The Big Bang Theory**  
**8.00 Below Deck: Mediterranean** The crew tries to stream a football game in the middle of the Med  
**9.00 Married at First Sight UK** Two grooms arrive alone to the second dinner party  
**10.00 Celeb Cooking School** Kerry, Toby and Laura need to master pastry (4/8)  
**11.05-12.10am Naked Attraction**

## Dave

FV 19, FS 157, SKY 111

**7.00pm Richard Osman's House of Games** Guests Nish Kumar, Clara Amfo, Anneka Rice and Al Murray test their skills  
**7.40 Room 101** With Jason Manford, Paloma Faith and Deborah Meaden  
**8.20 Would I Lie to You?**  
**9.00 QI XL** With Jimmy Carr, Aisling Bea and Danny Bhoy  
**10.00 Live at the Apollo**  
**11.00 Have I Got a Bit More News for You** Hosted by Richard Ayoade  
**12.00-12.40am Mock the Week**

## Drama

FV 20, FS 158, SKY 143, VIRGIN 130

**6.40pm 'Allo 'Allo!** Von Strohm and Geering are captured  
**7.20 Last of the Summer Wine** Compo decides to look up an old girlfriend from his schooldays  
**8.00 Dalziel & Pascoe** The death of a rich entrepreneur brings Dalziel into contact with an old flame  
**10.00 New Tricks** Investigating the mysterious deaths of a film critic and an artist. Barnaby Kay stars  
**11.20-12.40am Spooks** (1/2) Adam returns to work when terrorist attacks plunge Britain into chaos

## Yesterday

FV 27, FS 159, SKY 155, VIRGIN 129

**7.00pm Abandoned Engineering** The construction of the Vajont Dam in the mountains of Italy  
**8.00 Train Truckers** A legendary diesel locomotive, that's undergone over half a million pounds worth of repairs must be hauled over 40 miles (7/8)  
**9.00 Bangers and Cash** Vintage motorcycles (2/15)  
**10.00 Bangers and Cash** (9/10)  
**11.00 Abandoned Engineering**  
**12.00-1.00am The Architecture of Railways** Built (2/10)

## PBS America

FV 84, FS 155, SKY 174, VIRGIN 273

**6.40pm In Search of Medieval Britain** Examining the foundations of modern politics (4/6)  
**7.20 Europe's Forgotten Border** Events on the border between Czechoslovakia and the West during the Cold War  
**8.30 The Vietnam War** The Watergate scandal forces President Nixon to resign (10/10)  
**10.50 Europe's Forgotten Border**  
**12.00-12.40am In Search of Medieval Britain** The pilgrim trail from the east coast to London (3/6)

## Smithsonian

FV 57, FS 175, SKY 171, VIRGIN 276

**7.00pm Inside the Factory** A factory in Grimsby that produces nearly 80,000 fish fingers a day  
**8.00 The Pacific War in Colour** America advance towards Japan engaging in invasions  
**9.00 The Pacific War in Colour** The invasion of Saipan  
**10.00 WWII Battles in Colour** Germany's all-out assault on the Soviet Union in June 1941  
**11.00 The Pacific War in Colour**  
**12.00-1.00am The Pacific War in Colour** The invasion of Saipan

## Sky Arts

FV 11, FS 147, SKY 130, VIRGIN 165

**7.00pm JRR Tolkien: Designer of Worlds** Exploring the personality of the author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*  
**8.00 Cézanne: Portraits of a Life** A look at the life and work of the artist Paul Cézanne  
**9.00 I, Claude Monet** An exploration of the artist's life  
**10.00 Catherine the Great** Potemkin returns and hopes to begin a relationship with Catherine  
**11.10-12.45am The South Bank Show** A profile of Frank Skinner

## Sky History

SKY 123, VIRGIN 270

**7.00pm Forged in Fire** The remaining smiths head home to create a Chinese War Sword  
**8.00 Ancient Aliens** Giorgio Tsoukalos looks back at some extraordinary encounters  
**9.00 What on Earth?** Anomalies appearing on satellite images  
**10.00 The UnXplained with William Shatner**  
**11.00 Paranormal: Caught on Camera** A man is possessed  
**12.00-1.00am Curse of Skinwalker Ranch** New evidence is found

## Sky Max

SKY 113, VIRGIN 122

**7.00pm Stargate SG-1** A dormant android is discovered on a barren planet and transported to Earth  
**8.00 A League of Their Own** With Aaron Ramsdale, Michael Sheen, Alex Brooker and Emily Atack  
**9.00 The Blacklist** Aram turns to an unusual outlet for release  
**10.00 The 74th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards** Highlights of the ceremony honouring excellence in television, at the Microsoft Theatre in Los Angeles  
**12.00-1.00am Brassic**

## Discovery

SKY 125, VIRGIN 250

**7.00pm Junkyard Empire**  
**8.00 Railroad Alaska**  
**9.00 Gold Rush** The gold miners of put everything on the line  
**10.00 Gold Rush: Dave Turin's Lost Mine** An approaching snowstorm threatens to shut Team Turin down  
**11.00 Yukon Men**  
**12.00-1.00am The Alaska Triangle**

## Nat Geographic

SKY 129, VIRGIN 266, BT 351

**7.00pm Air Crash Investigation**  
**8.00 Alaska: The Next Generation** The Arctic fall season faces its end  
**9.00 Primal Survivor: Mighty Mekong** With Hazen Auel  
**10.00 Running Wild with Bear Grylls: The Challenge**  
**11.00 Air Crash Investigation**  
**12.00-1.00am Car SOS** (7/9)

## Sky Comedy

SKY 114, VIRGIN 135, BT 346

**7.00pm Everybody Hates Chris**  
**7.30 The Office (US)** Triple bill  
**9.00 The Rehearsal** (3/6)  
**9.35 Somebody Somewhere** Sam's friendship is threatened (2/8)  
**10.15 Bounty Hunters** (4/6)  
**10.50 Bounty Hunters** (5/6)  
**11.30-12.30am The Late Late Show with James Corden**

## Comedy Central

SKY 112, VIRGIN 181, BT 344

**7.00pm Friends** Four episodes  
**9.00 FILM Hot Shots! Part Deux** (PG, 1993) Spoof action movie sequel starring Charlie Sheen  
**10.40 Ridiculousness** Rob, Chanel and Steelo learn the true definition of nomophobia  
**11.10 Ridiculousness**  
**11.40-12.10am South Park**

## Gold

SKY 110, VIRGIN 124

**6.40pm Dad's Army** Two shows  
**8.00 Only Fools and Horses**  
**8.40 Murder, They Hope**  
**9.40 Bottom** With Rik Mayall  
**10.20 Bottom** Anarchic comedy  
**11.00 This Time with Alan Partridge** Steve Coogan stars  
**11.40-12.40am Billy Connolly** Does... Words of wisdom

## W

FV 25, FS 156, SKY 132

**7.00pm MasterChef Australia** With the Gelato master Donny Toce  
**8.00 DIY SOS: Celebrating 20 Years** With Nick Knowles  
**9.20 Dating With My Mates**  
**10.20 Should I Go Under the Knife?** With Cherry Healey  
**11.20-12.20am Stacey Dooley Sleeps Over** Documentary



Nixon is forced to resign in the final part of The Vietnam War (PBS America, 8.30pm)

## Sky Cricket

SKY 404, VIRGIN 514

**5.30pm Live Women's International T20 Cricket: England v India** Coverage from The Incora County Ground, Derby  
**7.30 Live EFL: Preston North End v Burnley** (Kick-off 8.00): Coverage of the Championship match between the Lancashire rivals  
**10.30 Gillette Labs Soccer Special** Update on tonight's games  
**11.00-12.00m't Sky Sports News**  
**1.00-3.10am Live MLS: Minnesota United v Los Angeles FC** (Kick-off 1.00)

## BT Sport 1

SKY 413, VIRGIN 527, BT 430

**3.00-5.00pm Live Uefa Youth League: Liverpool v Ajax** (Kick-off 3.00)  
**5.30 Live Uefa Champions League: Viktoria Plzen v Inter Milan** (Kick-off 5.45)  
**7.45 UCL Goals Show**  
**10.15 Down The Clubhouse**  
**11.15 Premier League Reload**  
**11.30 Gallagher Premiership Rugby Highlights**  
**1.00-3.15am Live WWE NXT** The next generation of wrestling superstars showcase their talents

## BT Sport 2

SKY 414, VIRGIN 528, BT 431

**7.00pm Live Uefa Champions League: Liverpool v Ajax** (Kick-off 8.00). Coverage of the Group A match at Anfield  
**10.30 Uefa Champions League Tonight** A look back at all the key talking points from tonight's matches  
**11.30 Premier League Stories**  
**12.00-3.30am Live MLB: Boston Red Sox v New York Yankees** (Start-time 12.10). Coverage of the American League West match at Fenway Park

## Film guide

### Film4

TV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428

**11.00am Waterloo Road (PG, 1944)** Second World War drama starring John Mills  
**12.35pm Border River (U, 1954)** Western starring Joel McCrea and Yvonne De Carlo  
**2.20 The Court-Martial of Billy Mitchell (U, 1955)** Courtroom drama starring Gary Cooper and Gary Cooper  
**4.25 The Long Ships (PG, 1963)** Viking adventure starring Richard Widmark and Sidney Poitier  
**7.05 Fantastic Four (12, 2015)** Superhero adventure starring Miles Teller  
**9.00 Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG, 1981)** Action adventure starring Harrison Ford  
**11.15-2.55am A Hidden Life (12, 2019)** Drama starring August Diehl. See Film Choice



Harrison Ford in Raiders of the Lost Ark (Film4, 9pm)

### Talking Pictures TV

TV 82 FS 306 SKY 328 VIRGIN 445

**6.00am The Mind of Mr JG Reeder**  
**7.00 The Black Book (PG, 1949)** French Revolution drama with Robert Cummings  
**8.50 Look at Life**  
**9.00 Stagecoach West**  
**10.00 I Met a Murderer (PG, 1939)** Drama starring James Mason and Pamela Mason  
**11.35 Perfect Understanding (U, 1933)** Romantic comedy starring Gloria Swanson and Laurence Olivier  
**1.15pm Private Information (U, 1952)** Drama starring Jill Esmond and Jack Watling  
**2.30 Sherlock Holmes**  
**3.00 The Silent Enemy (PG, 1958)** Second World War adventure starring Laurence Harvey and John Clements  
**5.10 Night Mail II (PG, 1987)** Documentary film tracking the journey of a delivery train  
**5.40 The Frozen North (U, 1922)** Silent comedy starring Buster Keaton  
**6.00 Scotland Yard**  
**6.35 Night Was Our Friend (PG, 1951)** Drama starring Michael Gough  
**7.50 Look at Life**  
**8.00 Maigret**  
**9.05 Van der Valk**  
**11.15-12.15am Public Eye**

### GREAT! Movies

TV 34 FS 302 SKY 321 VIRGIN 425

**9.00am The Twin (2017)** Drama with Brigid Brannagh  
**10.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**11.00 Eve of Abduction (PG, 2018)** Thriller starring Sarah Lind and Robb Derringer  
**12.50pm GREAT! Movie News**  
**1.00 Signed, Sealed, Delivered**  
**1.55 GREAT! Movie News**  
**2.01 Signed, Sealed, Delivered**  
**2.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**3.00 Heart of a Stranger (PG, 2002)** Drama starring Jane Seymour and Maggie Lawson

## Radio guide

### Times Radio

Digital only

**5.00am Anna Cunningham with Early Breakfast 6.00** Aasmah Mir and Stig Abell with Times Radio Breakfast  
**10.00 Matt Charley 1.00pm** Mariella Frostrup 4.00 John Pienaar at Drive 7.00 Henry Bonsu 10.00 Carole Walker 1.00am Stories of Our Times 1.30 Red Box 2.00 Highlights from Times Radio

### Radio 2

FM: 88.90.2 MHz

**6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show 9.30** Ken Bruce 12.00 Jeremy Vine 2.00pm Steve Wright 5.00 Sara Cox 6.30 Sara Cox's Half Wover 7.00 Jo Whiley's Shiny Happy Playlist 7.30 Jo Whiley 9.00 The Jazz Show with Jamie Cullum 10.00 Trevor Nelson's Magnificent 7 10.30 Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation 12.00 OJ Borg 3.00am Pick of the Pops (r) 4.00 Early Breakfast Show

### Radio 3

FM: 90.2-92.4 MHz

**6.00am Hollywood's Best Film Directors**  
**7.10 Off Set**  
**7.25 Cheyenne**  
**9.20 The Last Hunt (PG, 1956)** Western starring Robert Taylor and Stewart Granger  
**11.30 Cheyenne**  
**12.30pm Cheyenne**  
**1.30 The Spy With My Face (PG, 1966)** Man from UNCLE adventure starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum  
**3.20 Mystery Submarine (U, 1950)** Adventure starring Macdonald Carey  
**5.00 Son of a Gunfighter (U, 1966)** Western starring Russ Tamblyn and Fernando Rey  
**6.55 Chuka (PG, 1967)** Western starring Rod Taylor  
**9.00 Fire Down Below (18, 1997)** Action adventure starring Steven Seagal  
**11.10-1.15am Swordfish (15, 2001)** Crime thriller starring John Travolta and Hugh Jackman

### TCM Movies

SKY 315 VIRGIN 415

**6.00am Hollywood's Best Film Directors**  
**7.10 Off Set**  
**7.25 Cheyenne**  
**9.20 The Last Hunt (PG, 1956)** Western starring Robert Taylor and Stewart Granger  
**11.30 Cheyenne**  
**12.30pm Cheyenne**  
**1.30 The Spy With My Face (PG, 1966)** Man from UNCLE adventure starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum  
**3.20 Mystery Submarine (U, 1950)** Adventure starring Macdonald Carey  
**5.00 Son of a Gunfighter (U, 1966)** Western starring Russ Tamblyn and Fernando Rey  
**6.55 Chuka (PG, 1967)** Western starring Rod Taylor  
**9.00 Fire Down Below (18, 1997)** Action adventure starring Steven Seagal  
**11.10-1.15am Swordfish (15, 2001)** Crime thriller starring John Travolta and Hugh Jackman

### Sky Cinema Premiere

SKY 301 VIRGIN 401

**2.00pm The 355 (12, 2022)** Action thriller starring Jessica Chastain and Penélope Cruz  
**4.20 Monstrous (15, 2022)** Horror starring Christina Ricci  
**6.10 Last Looks (15, 2021)** A disgraced cop seeks solace by moving to the woods, but his quiet life comes to an end when a PI recruits him to investigate a murder. Thriller starring Charlie Hunnam  
**8.10 American Carnage (15, 2022)** Horror comedy starring Jenna Ortega and Jorge Lendeberg Jr  
**10.00-12.00am Scream (18, 2022)** Horror sequel starring Neve Campbell and Courteney Cox

### Today's pick

#### Icon

Radio 4, 11.30am

The photographs of Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton relaxing aboard a yacht off the Italian island of Ischia, right, when they were married to other people gave the world some of the first paparazzo pictures. It was the summer of 1962, during a break in filming *Cleopatra*, and the money shot was of them embracing — an image that this programme argues marks the birth of modern celebrity. It features the



photojournalist Danny Hayward, the sociologist Ellis Cashmore — author of *Elizabeth Taylor: A Private Life for Public Consumption* — and the philosopher Professor Angie Hobbs. Ben Dowell

### Radio 4

FM: 92.4-94.6 MHz  
 LW: 198 kHz MW: 720 kHz

### 5.30am News Briefing

5.43 Prayer for the Day  
 5.45 Farming Today  
 5.58 Tweet of the Day (r)  
 6.00 Today  
 8.31 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament  
 9.00 The Life Scientific  
 Dr Judith Bunbury reflects on the Sahara Desert  
 9.30 One to One  
 9.45 Book of the Week:  
 A Visible Man By Edward Enninful (2/5)  
 9.45 (LW) Daily Service

### 10.00 Woman's Hour

11.00 The Curious Cases of Rutherford & Fry Answers to science queries sent in 11.30 Icon New series. Discussing the celebrity culture that enveloped Elizabeth Taylor. See Choice  
 12.01pm (LW) Shipping  
 12.04 Call You and Yours  
 1.00 The World at One  
 1.45 The Boy in the Woods  
 2.00 The Archers (r)  
 2.15 Drama: Love Across the Ages By Shahid Iqbal Khan. Drama tackling the love between two Muslim men

3.00 Short Cuts  
 3.30 Costing the Earth  
 4.00 The Listening Project  
 4.30 Great Lives George Lascelles, the Seventh Earl of Harewood is nominated by Lesley Garrett  
 5.00 PM

5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast  
 6.00 Six O'Clock News  
 6.30 Alone (5/6)

7.00 The Archers There is a surprise for Josh

7.15 Front Row  
 8.00 File on 4 Charting British victims of trafficking

8.40 In Touch

9.00 Can the Police Keep Us Safe? Documentary (r)

9.30 The Life Scientific (r)

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid By Nita Prose (7/10)

11.00 Fortunately

11.30 Today in Parliament

12.00 News and Weather

12.30am Book of the Week:

A Visible Man (2/5) (r)

12.48 Shipping Forecast  
 1.00 As BBC World Service

### Radio 5 Live

MW: 693, 909

5.00am Wake Up to Money  
 6.00 5 Live Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 11.00 Naga Munchetty 1.00pm Nihal Arthanayake 4.00 5 Live Drive 5.30 5 Live Sport 5.45 Live Sport: Sporting Lisbon v Tottenham Hotspur (Kick-off 5.45) 8.00 5 Live Sport: Liverpool v Ajax (Kick-off 8.00) 10.00 Colin Murray 1.00am Dotun Adebayo

### talkSPORT

MW: 1053, 1089 kHz

5.00am Early Breakfast 6.00 talkSPORT Breakfast with Laura Woods 10.00 Jim White and Simon Jordan 1.00pm Hawksbee & Baker 4.00 talkSPORT Drive with Andy Goldstein and Darren Bent 7.00 Kick Off 10.00 Sports Bar 12.00 Extra Time

### TalkRadio

Digital only

5.00am James Max 6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show 10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham 1.00pm Ian Collins 4.00 Vanessa Feltz 7.00 The News Desk 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 9.00 The Talk

10.00 Daisy McAndrew 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 12.00 Petrie Hosken 4.00am The Talk

### Radio 4 Extra

Digital only

8.00am The Goon Show 8.30 King Street Junior 9.00 The News Quiz 9.30 The Older Woman 10.00 The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency 3.45 Short Works 4.00 The 3rd Degree 4.30 The Older Woman 5.00 The Break 5.30 Alone 6.00 Journey into Space 6.30 Soul Music 7.00 The Goon Show 7.30 King Street Junior 8.00 Death May Surprise Us 8.30 Agatha Raisin 9.00 Music Hall Reclaimed 10.00 Comedy Club: Alone 10.30 Think the Unthinkable 11.00 Party 11.30 I've Never Seen Star Wars

**BBC World Service**  
 Digital only

9.00am News 9.06 The Documentary 9.30 Discovery 10.00 News 10.06 The Arts Hour 11.00 The Newsroom 11.30 In the Studio 12.00 News 12.06pm Outlook 12.50 Witness History 1.00 The Newsroom 1.30 Discovery 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.06 People Fixing the World 3.30 Business 4.00 BBC OS 6.00 News 6.06 Outlook 6.50 Witness History 7.00 The Newsroom 7.30 Sport Today 8.00 News 8.06 The Documentary 8.30 Digital Planet 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.06 People Fixing the World 10.30 In the Studio 11.00 The Newsroom 11.20 Sports News 11.30 Business 12.00 News 12.06am The Arts Hour 1.00 News 1.06 Business Matters 2.00 The Newsroom 2.30 The Compass: The Understory 3.06 Outlook 3.50 Witness History 4.00 The Newsroom 4.30 Untold Legends: Ora

### 6 Music

Digital only

7.30am Lauren Laverne 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00pm Craig Charles 4.00 Steve Lamacq 7.00 Tom Robinson 9.00 Gideon Coe 12.00 6 Music Artist in Residence 1.00am The First Time with Debbie Harry

### Virgin Radio

Digital only

6.30am The Chris Evans Breakfast Show with Sky 10.00 Eddy Temple-Morris 1.00pm Tim Cocker 4.00 Jayne Middlemiss 7.00 Steve Denyer 10.00 Olivia Jones 1.00am Sean Goldsmith 4.00 Steve Denyer

### Classic FM

FM: 100-102 MHz

6.00am More Music Breakfast 9.00 Alexander Armstrong 12.00 Anne-Marie Minhall 4.00pm John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics 10.00 Smooth Classics 1.00am Karthi Gnanasegaram 4.00 Early Breakfast

# Tuesday 13

# Wednesday 14 | Viewing guide

## Critic's choice

### Our Friends in the North

BBC4, 10.10pm

From once-revered but now largely forgotten series such as *The Roads to Freedom*, *Second City Firsts* and *Sunset Song* to the adored but seldom repeated *Buddha of Suburbia* and *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*, the repeats of classic programmes on BBC4 have gone some way towards compensating for its slow, sad but probably inevitable journey towards existing online only. *Our Friends in the North* is, of course, in the latter category, although it was adapted for Radio 4 with an additional chapter this year. Peter Flannery's epochal 1996 series won two Baftas (including Best Drama Serial) and, if it did not quite launch the careers of Christopher Eccleston (who recalls his experiences of the series at 10pm), Gina McKee (another Bafta winner), Mark Strong and Daniel Craig, right, it certainly gave them the

opportunity to display their talents to best advantage. Beginning with tonight's triple-header, it documents the intertwining lives of four Newcastle residents from mid-1960s to mid-1990s: Eccleston's left-wing radical Nicky, McKee's emollient, fiercely intelligent Mary, Craig's wildcard former miner Geordie and Strong's Tosker, hiding steely ambition beneath his feckless, easy-going surface. Along the way there are romantic entanglements and disappointments, political awakenings and disillusionments, illusory wealth and near-destitution, all of it underpinned by intimate character studies. The leads are wonderful and the writing layered, while Malcolm McDowell, Alun Armstrong and Peter Vaughan lend memorable support.

Gabriel Tate



## Minx

Paramount+

In this colourful 1970s-set comedy drama Ophelia Lovibond plays Joyce, an intelligent, idealistic young woman living in LA who is trying to get her earnest feminist publication, *The Matriarchy Awakens*, off the ground. Enter low-rent publisher Doug (Jake Johnson), who mansplains that Joyce is doing it all wrong. "You gotta hide the medicine," he tells her. "Nude men" is his suggestion and he convinces Joyce to join forces and launch *Minx*, an erotic magazine for women, turning her into "the Porn Queen of Pasadena" and an enemy of prudish housewives and radical feminists. Joe Clay

## Shetland

BBC1, 9pm

And so we say farewell to the sad-eyed DI Jimmy Perez (Douglas Henshall) and his navy peacock. "For those that are interested I'll explain my reasons for leaving later," Henshall said on Twitter, suggesting there were intrigue surrounding his departure after almost a decade on the crime drama. But first Perez has a case to solve, with a rogue member of an eco-group looking to make an explosive statement and one that puts Perez in peril. No spoilers here, but it's an emotional Shexit for Jimmy. "I'm not sure I can do this without you," Tosh sobs, speaking for all *Shetland* fans. JC

## Days that Shook the BBC with David Dimbleby

BBC2, 9pm

The third and concluding episode of the series asks how the BBC can represent the whole nation. Events illuminating the subject are the Sachsgate scandal when Russell Brand and Jonathan Ross left octocots messages on the answerphone of the *Fawlty Towers* actor Andrew Sachs and the decision to have BNP leader Nick Griffin on *Question Time*. The relentless self-flagellation eventually gives way to a concluding call to arms. Ben Dowell

## Doc Martin

ITV, 9pm

As the final series of the drama continues it's the irascible doctor's first day back at work after yet another change of heart regarding quitting. A feckless agency receptionist (Angus Imrie, Prince Edward in *The Crown*) causes havoc in the waiting room and Martin (Martin Clunes) is challenged by his first patient who is bleeding from a head wound. The injured man is George (David Hayman), who has recently lost his wife and is planning on selling his house, which happens to be Louisa's childhood dream home. She's keen on moving, but are supernatural forces trying to make George stay put? JC

## Films of the day

### Rush (15, 2013)

BBC1, 10.40pm

The British playboy James Hunt and the Austrian technical genius Niki Lauda were icons of motor racing, and the rivalry that grew between them only added to their legendary status. Ron Howard directs a screenplay by Peter Morgan that explores the battle between the two men, on and off the track. Chris Hemsworth plays Hunt, while Daniel Brühl, below right with Hemsworth, is particularly impressive as Lauda. Almost as important as the casting here is Morgan's screenplay – it's a kind of *Frost/Nixon* battle of wills on really fast wheels. Howard creates a persuasive sense of the time and place, and the race sequences are impressively mounted. This is thrillingly tense stuff, even if you know how the story panned out. (123min) Wendy Ide



## Regional programmes

### • BBC1 Wales As BBC1 except: 10.40pm

The Emiliano Sala Story: Kayley Thomas investigates the life and death of the Argentinian footballer 11.10 Rewind: 60 Years of Welsh Pop (r) 11.40-1.30am

### • BBC1 NI Ireland As BBC1 except:

10.40pm Cliona & Simon: From This Moment On 11.10 FILM RUSH (2013)

1.05am Ladrood (r) 1.30-6.00 BBC News

### • BBC2 NI Ireland As BBC2 except:

7.00-8.00pm The Hotel People (r)

10.00-10.30 The Irish League Show

11.15 True North: Rat Woman (r) 11.45

Unspun North with John Simpson

12.10-12.40am Live at the Apollo (r)

### • BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 except: 2.15pm

Politics Scotland 3.00-3.45 Money for

Nothing 12.30am Scottish Questions 1.00

The Edit (r) 1.15 Ladrood (r) 1.40 Weather

for the Week Ahead 1.45-6.00 BBC News

### • STV As ITV except: 10.30pm STV News

10.40 Scotland Tonight 11.05-12.05am

Peston 3.25-4.40 Unwind with STV

### • BBC Scotland 7.00pm Inside Central Station (r) 8.00 Scotland from the Sky (r)

9.00 The Nine 10.00 River City 10.30

Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond

11.00-Midnight Model Scots (r)

• S4C 6.00am Cyw: Blocioau Rhif (r)

6.05 Do Re Mi Dona (r) 6.20 Sam Tan (r)

6.30 Sbarc (r) 6.45 Anifeiliaid Bach y Byd (r)

6.55 Nos Da Cyw (r) 7.05 Cei Bach (r)

7.20 Odo 7.30 Octonots (r) 7.45 Ffwrn Fach (r)

8.00 Ty Mêl (r) 8.10 Halibwlw (r)

8.20 Rapsgalwn (r) 8.35 Sion y Chef (r)

8.45 Antur Natur Cyw (r) 9.00 Y Cradach (r)

9.05 Stiw (r) 9.20 Byd Tad-Cu (r)

9.30 Patról Pawennau (r) 9.45 Gwdiwlw (r)

10.00 Blcioau Rhif (r) 10.05 Do Re Mi

Dona (r) 10.20 Sam Tan (r) 10.30 Sbarc (r)

10.45 Anifeiliaid Bach y Byd (r) 11.00

Dysgu Gyda Cyw: Meriwpans (r) 11.05

Do Re Mi Dona (r) 11.20 Timpo (r) 11.30

Jen a Jim Pob Dím (r) 11.45 Stiw (r) 12.00

News 12.05pm Cywrrd Epic Chris (r)

12.30 Heno (r) 1.00 Caeau Cymru (r)

1.30 Garddio a Mwy (r) 2.00 News 2.05

Prynhawn Da 3.00 News 3.05 Gwesty

Aduniad (r) 4.00 Awr Fawr: Odo (r) 4.10

Sam Tan (r) 4.20 Byd Tad-Cu (r) 4.30

Octonots (r) 4.45 Ffwrn Fach (r) 5.00

Stwnsh: Ol! Oscar (r) 5.10 Dreigiau:

Marchogion Berci (r) 5.35 Itopia (r) 5.55

Feil 6.00 Trysrau Cymru: Tir, Tai a

Chyfrinachau (r) 6.30 Round a Rownd (r)

6.57 News 4.35 Heno 7.30 News 8.00

Pobol y Cwm 8.25 Cegin Bryn: Yn

Ffraint (r) 8.55 News 9.00 Systym i

Gymru 10.00 Ty am Ddim (r)

11.00-11.35 Dim Hwy i'w Wisgo (r)

(r) repeat (SL) In-vision signing

### Searching (12, 2018)

Film4, 1.40am

*Searching* is a gripping missing-child thriller that plays out via text messages, FaceTime conversations, home videos and CCTV footage. John Cho plays David Kim, a widower who is plunged into a nightmare when his 16-year-old daughter, Margot (a sullen Michelle La), vanishes. David hunts for Margot through a thicket of email accounts, social media posts, online maps and creepy websites. Aneesh Chaganty's film has lots to say about the evils of social and news media and how parents, especially fathers, often have little idea about their children's lives. The story starts to unravel just before Chaganty pulls the curtain aside, but this is a mystery that's far meatier than its virtual framing would suggest. (102min) Kevin Maher

## Catch up

### Noel Edmonds: The Rise & Fall of Mr Saturday Night

My5

That beard, those shirts, his supposed belief in cosmic ordering... it's not difficult to mock Noel Edmonds, right. However, it is a temptation that is resisted by this fair-minded profile of the radio DJ and presenter (and much else besides). This deploys some decent talking heads (including



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**Also available online and on tablet**

Digital subscribers can now use our interactive seven-day guide with comprehensive listings of all TV channels  
[thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner](http://thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner)

**Wednesday 14****BBC1**

**6.00am** Breakfast 9.15 Morning Live  
**10.00** Dom Does America (r) **10.45**  
 Claimed and Shamed (r) **11.15** Homes Under the Hammer (r) **12.15pm**  
 Bargain Hunt (r) **1.00** BBC News at One; Weather **1.30** BBC Regional News; Weather **1.45** Doctors. AI's relief at solving the mystery is short-lived **2.15** Money for Nothing. Items include an oak serving table and some splash-back glass **3.00** Escape to the Country. Alistair Appleton visits the spectacular Perth and Kinross countryside (r) **3.45** The Bidding Room. Items include a Russian-themed barometer and an ice shaver (r) **4.30** Antiques Road Trip. Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott search Oxfordshire **5.15** Pointless. Quiz **6.00** BBC News at Six; Weather **6.30** BBC Regional News; Weather



Farewell to Jimmy Perez (9pm)

**BBC2**

**6.30am** Escape to the Country (r) **7.15** Antiques Road Trip (r) **8.00** Sign Zone: Gardeners' World (r) (SL) **9.00** BBC News **10.00** BBC News **11.15** Politics Live **1.00pm** Chase the Case (r) **1.45** Eggheads (r) **2.15** Glorious Gardens from Above. Christine Walkden explores Oxfordshire (r) **3.00** Flipping Profit. Kate Bliss and the team head to Ludlow (r) **4.30** Murder, Mystery and My Family. A case of starvation and neglect from 1877 (r) **5.15** Flog It!. From Culzean Castle in South Ayrshire (r) **6.00** Richard Osman's House of Games. With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell **6.30** Unbeatable. General knowledge quiz, with Jason Manford



Nadiya's Everyday Baking (8.30pm)

**ITV**

**6.00am** Good Morning Britain **9.00** Lorraine **10.00** This Morning **12.30pm** Loose Women. Another helping of topical discussion from a female perspective, featuring celebrity interviews **1.30** ITV News; Weather **1.55** Regional News; Weather **2.00** Dickinson's Real Deal. David Dickinson sets up shop in Blackpool, with his dealers Henry Nicholls, Jan Keyne, Matt Taylor and Helen Gardner **3.00** Tenable. A team of five podcast-producing friends answer questions about top 10 lists, then try to score a perfect 10 in the final round. Warwick Davis asks the questions **4.00** Tipping Point. Ben Shephard hosts the arcade-themed quiz **5.00** The Chase. Another batch of contestants take part in the quiz **6.00** Regional News; Weather **6.30** ITV News; Weather



Martin Clunes is Doc Martin (9pm)

**Channel 4**

**6.10am** Countdown (r) **6.50** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.15** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **9.00** Frasier (r) **9.30** Frasier (r) **10.00** Frasier (r) **10.30** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (r) **11.25** Channel 4 News Summary **11.30** The Great House Giveaway (r) **12.30pm** Steph's Packed Lunch **2.10** Countdown. Rick Edwards is in Dictionary Corner **3.00** A Place in the Sun. Ben Hillman helps find a retirement home in Portugal (r) **4.00** Château DIY. Matt and Helen host their first wedding at Château la Briance **5.00** Moneybags. Quiz, hosted by Craig Charles **6.00** The Simpsons (r) **6.30** Hollyoaks. Sam confides in Lizzie and Ethan (r)



Presenter Kevin McCloud (9pm)

**Channel 5**

**6.00am** Milkshake! **9.15** Jeremy Vine **12.45pm** Holiday Homes in the Sun. Rental properties in Combe Martin and Ilfracombe, Devon **1.40** 5 News at Lunchtime **1.45** Home and Away. Cash is in critical condition. Felicity unleashes her stress on Rose, but after some news from the doctor, Cash's friends put their differences aside **2.15** FILM *My Husband's Secret Life* (12, TVM, 2018) A woman discovers her husband is leading a dangerous double life after a sudden accident leaves him in a coma. Thriller starring Kara Killmer and Brett Donahue **4.00** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. Cosmetics saleswoman Val has a new business venture (r) **5.00** 5 News at 5 **6.00** Cash in the Attic. Helping people make money **6.55** 5 News Update



Another visit to Casualty 24/7 (9pm)

**7.00** The One Show Alex Jones and Jermaine Jenas present the live magazine show

**7.30** EastEnders It's crunch time for Kat as Alfie tries to win her back

**8.00** The Repair Shop The craftspeople get to work on a secret radio used during the Second World War, a pair of vintage seamstress scissors, a 74-year-old teddy bear and a battered school satchel

**9.00** Shetland The team races to identify the killer and prevent disaster striking the town. As the investigation draws to a close, Perez faces a life-changing decision. See Viewing Guide (6/6)

**10.00BBC News at Ten**

**10.30 BBC Regional News**

**10.40 FILM Rush (15, 2013)** The 1976 Formula One Championship season is dominated by a fierce rivalry between two contrasting racers, as daredevil British driver James Hunt and methodical Austrian defending champion Niki Lauda put their lives on the line to outdo each other on the track. Fact-based drama starring Chris Hemsworth, Daniel Bruhl and Olivia Wilde. See Film Choice

**12.30am** Ladhood. Having secured a promotion, Liam finds himself morally compromised when asked to work on an ad campaign for a betting service (r) **12.55** Weather for the Week Ahead **1.00** BBC News. The latest headlines

**BBC2**

**7.00** Celebrity Antiques Road Trip Comedian Dom Joly and actor Pauline McLynn are in Lancashire with James Braxton and Philip Serrell, buying antique bamboo and teapots (r)

**8.00** Mary Berry: Cook & Share Mary shares dishes including shakshuka (2/6)  
**8.30** Nadiya's Everyday Baking Nadiya Hussain shares the speediest of her bakes (2/6)

**9.00** Days That Shook the BBC with David Dimbleby David explores the BBC's relationship with the British people, asking how the BBC can seek to serve its entire audience, amid challenges to its impartiality. See Viewing Guide (3/3)

**10.00QI** With Ed Gamble, Lou Sanders and Sindhu Vee (r)

**10.30 Newsnight** Analysis of the day's events, with Victoria Derbyshire

**11.15** Unspun World with John Simpson Global news stories

**11.40** The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolsonaros A look at Jair Bolsonaro's campaign for the 2018 presidential election, when he targeted the ever-growing number of Christian evangelicals (2/3) (r)

**12.40am** Sign Zone: Ambulance (r) (SL) **1.40-2.45** All That Glitters: Britain's Next Jewellery Star. Making a pearl chain necklace. (r) (SL)

**ITV**

**7.30** Emmerdale Harriet informs an anxious Kim that they have not found Millie  
**8.00** Coronation Street As a nervous Toyah heads to court, Leanne begs her not to say something she will regret, and to let her solicitor do the talking. Zeedan and Stu prepare for Sean's birthday party

**9.00** Doc Martin The surgery is chaotic, with Martin and Louisa both now practising from it. Bert's new business venture with Al does not get off to a good start. See Viewing Guide (2/8)

**10.00ITV News at Ten;** followed by Weather

**10.30 Regional News;** followed by Regional Weather

**10.45 Peston** Political magazine show presented by Robert Peston, featuring major interviews with MPs, topical guests and cultural figures

**11.40 Heathrow: Britain's Busiest Airport** A surprise lies in store for passengers flying to Heathrow's top European destination (9/12) (r)

**12.05am** English Football League Highlights. Including West Bromwich Albion v Birmingham City (r) **1.20** Teleshopping **3.00** For the Love of Britain (r) (SL) **3.25** Unwind with ITV **4.40** The Masked Dancer (r) (SL)

**Channel 4**

**7.00** Channel 4 News Including sport and weather

**9.00** Grand Designs Kevin McCloud follows the progress of Dorran, who promised his wife and children he would build them a super-modern underground home on a hill outside Canterbury

**10.00Football Dreams: The Academy** The documentary focuses on the under-18s, one of country's best sides, including Ryan, who is coming back from injury and is desperate to prove his worth (6/6)

**11.05** The Great Elizabeth pronounces that Catherine's baby will be born in five days. But when conflict with the Ottomans heightens, Catherine tries to run the country while on bed rest (8/10)

**12.20am** Inside the Superbrands: Typhoon (r) (SL) **1.15** Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard (r) (SL) **2.10** A Very British Job Agency (r) (SL) **3.05** Car SOS (r) (SL) **3.55** Amazing Spaces (r) (SL) **4.50** The Great Home Transformation (r) (SL) **5.45** Drawers Off (r)

**Channel 5**

**7.00** The Highland Vet A seal is brought in to the large animal wing, but may be too ill to return to the wild. A rescue dog in training for police duties needs a delicate procedure (r)

**7.55** 5 News Update

**8.00** Police Interceptors Documentary following the work of a high-speed police interception unit; followed by 5 News Update

**9.00** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts An 83-year-old man is rushed in with suspected sepsis, while paramedics rush to help a woman who has fallen out of her vehicle after getting her foot tangled in her handbag strap

**11.05** A&E After Dark When 70-year-old Peter arrives at Hull Royal Infirmary with a dangerously high heart rate, Dr Chris and the medical team have to act fast to prevent him going into cardiac arrest (1/10) (r)

**12.05am** 999: Criminals Caught on Camera. A fake robbery is caught on camera (r) **1.00** The LeoVegas Live Casino Show **3.00** Entertainment News on 5 **3.05** Britain's Favourite Cleaning Product (r) **4.45** Amazing Cakes & Bakes (r) **5.30** Milkshake!

# Wednesday 14 | Primetime digital guide

FV Freeview FS Freesat

## Culture Club



Boy George and the 1980s pop band feature in Blitzed: The 80s Blitz Kids' Story  
Sky Arts, 9pm

## TalkTV

FV 237, FS 217, SKY 526, VIRGIN 627

**6.00am James Max** An initial insight into the day's stories

**6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show** The stories you need to know to start your day

**10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham**

**1.00pm Ian Collins** Hard-hitting monologues and debates

**4.00 Vanessa Feltz**

**7.00 The News Desk with Tom Newton Dunn** The biggest stories of the day

**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's events

**9.00 The Talk** Sharon Osbourne and a panel of famous faces debate the hot topics everybody's talking about

**10.00 Daisy McAndrew** The host is joined by journalists and commentators to discuss the day's big stories

**11.00-12.00m Piers Morgan Uncensored**

## BBC3

FV 23, FS 179, SKY 117, VIRGIN 107

**7.00pm Top Gear** Paddy McGuinness introduces Chris Harris and Freddie Flintoff to his latest creation – an all-electric ice-cream van (5/5)

**8.00 Gassed Up** Rapper Mist takes on entrepreneur Spencer Matthews in a driving challenge (6/6)

**8.50 Zen Motoring** Former battle rapper Ogmios gives his guide to being a zen driver, mystical roundabouts and Scooter boys (1/6)

**9.00 FILM Divergent** (12, 2014) A teenager in a strictly ordered future society discovers a conspiracy to wipe out a group of outsiders. Sci-fi adventure starring Shailene Woodley

**11.10-12.10am Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next** The rising trend of harmless images being turned into hardcore porn

## BBC4

FV 9/24, FS 173, SKY 116, VIRGIN 108

**7.00pm Art. Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection** Examining the age of the Romantics, and the flamboyant George IV who created so much of the visual look of the modern monarchy (3/4)

**8.00 South Pacific** Efforts to preserve the region's marine life (6/6)

**9.00 The Human Body: Secrets of Your Life Revealed** The way experiences shape the mind and body (3/3)

**10.00 Christopher Eccleston Remembers: Our Friends in the North** The actor looks back on the drama series

**10.10 Our Friends in the North** Drama starring Christopher Eccleston and Daniel Craig. See Viewing Guide (1/9)

**11.20-12.25am Our Friends in the North** Geordie lands a job with a porn baron. See Viewing Guide (2/9)

## More 4

FV 18, FS 124, SKY 136, VIRGIN 147

**6.55pm Escape to the Château** Dick Strawbridge and Angel Adoree host their last wedding of the year, and they welcome a fleet of vintage Citroens, whose drivers are making a pit-stop on a charity tour (5/8)

**7.55 The Yorkshire Dales and the Lakes** In the Dales, a youngster is in sole charge of lambing for the first time (10/10)

**9.00 24 Hours in A&E** Doctors treat a baby who stopped breathing, and a young expectant father involved in a motocross accident (11/13)

**10.00 24 Hour Baby Hospital** A couple arrive at the Rotunda for a procedure on their twins, who are at 16 weeks gestation (2/6)

**11.05-12.10am 24 Hours in A&E** A 74-year-old man is brought into A&E after suffering a suspected stroke

## Sky Atlantic

SKY 108

**6.50pm The Sopranos** A reluctant Bacala dons Pussy's old Santa suit, and Tony visits Dr Melfi with haunting memories of Christmas 1995 (10/13) (R)

**7.55 Game of Thrones** Robb Stark discovers he has been betrayed by one of his closest friends. Arya calls in a debt, and Daenerys' hunger for the Iron Throne prompts her to ignore Jorah Mormont's advice (8/10) (R)

**9.00 The White Lotus** Rachel is blindsided by an unexpected arrival, and Armond's renewed commitment to sobriety is put to the test. Meanwhile, Tanya's attention turns to an intriguing guest (4/6) (R)

**10.10 Irma Vep** Mira experiences a spiritual breakthrough after a visit with Rene (R)

**11.10-12.10am Landscapers** With Olivia Colman (4/4) (R)

## Sky Documentaries

SKY 121, VIRGIN 278

**7.00pm Catch and Kill: The Podcast Tapes** The arduous process of verifying the details of the story (5/6) (R)

**7.30 Catch and Kill: The Podcast Tapes** Igor Ostrovsky talks about being hired to track Ronan Farrow (6/6) (R)

**8.00 The Vietnam War** Hardliners in Hanoi seize the initiative and send combat troops to the south, accelerating the insurgency, while US president Lyndon Johnson escalates America's military commitment (R)

**9.00 The Loneliest Whale: The Search for 52** Documentary about the search to find a rare whale that calls out at a frequency unrecognised by other whales. This creature is believed to live in complete solitude (R)

**11.00-12.35am Wishful Drinking** Carrie Fisher performs a one-woman show (R)

## ITV2

FV 6, FS 113, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**7.00pm Secret Crush**

**8.00 Bob's Burgers**

**8.30 Bob's Burgers** Gene and Louise are left home alone when Tina ends up in detention

**9.00 Gordon, Gino and Fred: American Road Trip** The trio visit San Francisco, where highlights include afternoon tea – laced with cannabis (3/4)

**10.00 Family Guy**

**10.30 Family Guy**

**11.00 Family Guy**

**11.30-12.25am American Dad!**

## ITV3

FV 10, FS 115, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**7.00pm Heartbeat** Steve lands himself in danger

**8.00 Lewis** A professor is found dead after her dating video is leaked onto a website (2/4)

**10.00 Professor T** Jasper becomes embroiled in a hostage situation, but his unconventional negotiating tactics do not go down well with the police (3/6)

**11.05-12.10am Professor T** The academic is called upon to help investigate the disappearance of a six-year-old girl (4/6)

## ITV4

FV 26, FS 117, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**7.00pm Live Women's International Rugby Union: England v Wales** (Kick-off 7.30). All the action from the friendly at Ashton Gate in Bristol, as the teams fine-tune preparations for the World Cup. Jill Douglas presents, with analysis from Maggie Alphonsi and Philippa Tuttiett

**10.00 Made in Britain** A look at craftsmen making acoustic guitars

**10.30 English Football League Highlights** The latest fixtures

**12.00-1.55am Brothers in Football**

## E4

FV 13, FS 122, SKY 135, VIRGIN 106

**7.00pm Hollyoaks**

**7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Leonard, Raj and Howard go camping to watch the Leonid meteor shower

**8.00 Below Deck: Mediterranean** Hannah puts her foot down when Bobby and Danny bring girls back to the yacht

**9.00 Married at First Sight UK**

**10.35 Send Nudes: Body SOS** Bouncer Michelle wants more bounce in her breasts (3/5)

**11.35-12.40am Gogglebox**

## Dave

FV 19, FS 157, SKY 111

**7.00pm Richard Osman's House of Games** Nish Kumar, Clara Amfo, Anneka Rice and Al Murray test their general knowledge skills

**7.40 Room 101**

**8.20 Would I Lie to You?**

**9.00 QI XL** Stephen Fry prepares for the festive period with some seasonal merriment

**10.00 Mock the Week**

**10.40 Would I Lie to You?**

**11.20 Would I Lie to You?**

**12.00-12.40am Mock the Week**

**Christmas Special 2019**

## Drama

FV 20, FS 158, SKY 143, VIRGIN 130

**6.40pm 'Allo 'Allo!** Rene breaks into Herr Flick's lair

**7.25 Last of the Summer Wine** The friends meet a mysterious man who has a machine that can locate 'hidden forces'

**8.00 The Coronation** Mick is suspected of murdering a rival

**9.00 Whitechapel** (1/2) A flayed human face is found at a local art gallery. Starring Phil Davis

**10.00 New Tricks** The detectives investigate two deaths

**11.20-12.40am Spooks**

## Yesterday

FV 27, FS 159, SKY 155, VIRGIN 129

**7.00pm Abandoned Engineering** Exploring an abandoned railway station near a town in Spain

**8.00 Secrets of the London Underground** Tim Dunn and Siddy Holloway explore the disused parts of Piccadilly Circus (3/6)

**9.00 Bangers and Cash** Derek collects a Jaguar Mark 2 (7/10)

**10.00 Bangers and Cash** (10/10)

**11.00 Abandoned Engineering** A town established by Henry Ford 12.00-1.00am **The Architecture of the Railways** Built (3/10)

## PBS America

FV 84, FS 155, SKY 174, VIRGIN 273

**6.50pm Search of Medieval Britain** With Dr Alice Bovey (6/6)

**7.30 The Silk Road** Sam Willis traces the history of one of the world's famous trade routes (1/3)

**8.40 The Last Voices of World War One** Interviews with veterans who fought in the conflict (1/6)

**9.45 Nazi Hunters** The mission to track down the former Latvian Air Force pilot Herbert Cukurs (1/8)

**10.40 The Silk Road** (1/3)

**12.00-12.40am In Search of Medieval Britain** (5/6)

## Smithsonian

FV 57, FS 175, SKY 171, VIRGIN 276

**7.00pm Big Cat Country** Kimba and Maya risk crossing the river to search for their parents

**8.00 The Hunt for Escobar's Hippos** Escaped hippos, once belonging to Pablo Escobar

**9.00 Miami Wild** Creatures struggling to carve out territory, find new mates and raise families

**10.00 Aerial Africa** A flight over the interior of South Africa

**11.00 The Hunt for Escobar's Hippos** Documentary

**12.00-1.00am Miami Wild**

## Sky Arts

FV 11, FS 147, SKY 130, VIRGIN 165

**7.00pm Landscape Artist of the Year 2017** Contestants paint the steelworks at South Gare (2/9)

**8.00 Sky Arts Book Club** With Leone Ross and Sarah Vaughan

**9.00 Blitzed: The 80s Blitz Kids' Story** The history of the Blitz nightclub in Covent Garden

**11.00 The Seventies** A look at the evolution of terrorism from the fatal TWA flight 481 (6/8)

**12.00-1.20am Berlin Live: Simple Minds** A 2011 performance by the band at Schwuz nightclub

## Sky History

SKY 123, VIRGIN 270

**7.00pm Forged in Fire**

**8.00 Swamp People** Hoping to tag out, the Edgars face challenges and confront an old nemesis

**9.00 Curse of Skinwalker Ranch** A team investigates an infamous hotbed of paranormal activity

**10.00 Kings of Pain** Adam and Rob tangle with a new batch of painful and deadly insects

**11.00 Kings of Pain** Adam and Rob receive their two worst bites to date in Indonesia (6/9)

**12.00-1.00am Forged in Fire**

## Sky Max

SKY 113, VIRGIN 122

**7.00pm Stargate SG-1** Jackson prepares to sacrifice himself

**8.00 SEAL Team** Bravo Team takes on multiple high-stakes missions. David Boreanaz stars (11/14)

**9.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks** New series. Greg Davies returns with the music quiz show

**9.45 Brassic** Chinese Dan gives his retired racing greyhound to Cardi

**10.45 The Russell Howard Hour**

**11.30-12.30am Resident Alien** Harry and Asta's trip is interrupted by an uninvited relative (5/8)

## Discovery

SKY 125, VIRGIN 250

**7.00pm Junkyard Empire**

**8.00 Railroad Alaska**

**9.00 Deadliest Catch** Following the work of Alaskan crab fisherman

**10.00 Mysteries of the Deep**

The dark secrets of a 150-year-old shipwreck off the Mexican coast

**11.00 Yukon Men**

12.00-1.00am **The Alaska Triangle**

## Nat Geographic

SKY 129, VIRGIN 266, BT 351

**7.00pm Air Crash Investigation: Special Report**

**8.00 Airport Security: Rome** (2/8)

**9.00 Narco Wars: Chasing the Dragon** How Harlem was flooded

**10.00 Trafficked with Mariana Van Zeller** Documentary (6/8)

**11.00 Air Crash Investigation**

12.00-1.00am **Car SOS** (8/9)

## Sky Comedy

SKY 114, VIRGIN 135, BT 346

**7.00pm Everybody Hates Chris**

**7.30 The Office (US)** Triple bill

**9.00 The Rehearsal** Comedy starring Nathan Fielder (4/6)

**9.40 Vice Principals** (3/9)

**10.15 Vice Principals** (4/9)

**10.50 Bloods** (7/10)

**11.20-12.20am The Late Late Show** with James Corden

## Comedy Central

SKY 112, VIRGIN 181, BT 344

**7.00pm Friends** Four episodes

**9.00 Michael McIntyre's Showtime** Stand-up comedy

**10.00 Jack Whitehall: Comedy Central** Live Stand-up special

**10.30 Ardal O'Hanlon:** Comedy Central Live

**11.00 Minx** New series

**11.30-12.00midnight Ridiculousness**

## Gold

SKY 110, VIRGIN 124

**6.40pm Dad's Army**

**7.20 Dad's Army**

**8.00 Only Fools and Horses**

**8.40 Murder, They Hope**

**9.40 Bottom** Wretched flatmates Richie and Eddie go camping

**10.20 Bottom** The duo get trapped

**11.00 Live at the Apollo**

**12.00-12.40am The Cockfields**

## W

SKY 25, FS 156, SKY 132

**7.00pm MasterChef Australia** A creative service challenge

**8.15 Dating With My Mates** Four London women take up the dating challenge

**9.15 The Undateables**

**10.15 The Baby Has Landed**

**11.15-12.15am One Born Every Minute** Amazing birthing stories

## Sky Main Event

SKY 401, VIRGIN 511, BT 440

**7.00pm Gillette Labs Soccer** Special Pre-match reports

**7.30 Live EFL: Reading v Sunderland** (Kick-off 8.00). Coverage of the Championship encounter at Select Car Leasing Stadium

**10.30 Gillette Labs Soccer Special**, News of all the goals as they go in and a classified results round-up

**11.00-11.10am Live MLS: Orlando City SC v Atlanta United FC** (Kick-off 11.00). Coverage of the clash at Exploria Stadium

## Sky Premier League

SKY 402, VIRGIN 512

**7.00pm Gillette Labs Soccer** Special Pre-match reports, news of all the goals as they go in and a classified results round-up

**10.15 Premier League Stories**

**10.45 PL Greatest Games** Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester United from 1998

**11.00 Gary Neville's Soccerbox** The presenter talks to Thierry Henry about matches they faced each other in

**11.30-12.00m't Premier League Stories** Behind the scenes



Manchester City's Kevin De Bruyne is set to face Borussia Dortmund (BT Sport 2, 7pm)

## Sky Cricket

SKY 404, VIRGIN 514

**7.00pm Test Cricket** England v South Africa. Highlights of day two of the third Test, at The Kia Oval

**8.00 Test Cricket** England v South Africa. Highlights of day three of the third Test, at The Kia Oval

**9.00 Test Cricket** England v South Africa. Highlights of day four of the third Test, at The Kia Oval

**10.00 Test Cricket** England v South Africa. Highlights of day five of the third Test, at The Kia Oval

**11.00-12.00m't Best of England v South Africa** Highlights

## BT Sport 1

SKY 413, VIRGIN 527, BT 430

**1.01pm Live Uefa Youth League: Chelsea U19 v RB Salzburg U19** (Kick-off 1.00)

**3.00-5.00 Live Uefa Youth League: Manchester City U19 v Borussia Dortmund U19** (Kick-off 3.00)

**5.30 Live Uefa Champions League: AC Milan v Dinamo Zagreb** (Kick-off 5.45)

**7.45 UCL Goals Show**

**10.15 The Football's On**

**11.15 Premier League Reload**

**11.30 MLB Plays of the Week**

**12.00-12.30am Live MLB**

## BT Sport 2

SKY 414, VIRGIN 528, BT 431

**10.30-12.30pm Live FFA Cup: Oakleigh Cannons v Macarthur FC** (Kick-off 10.30)

**7.00pm Live Uefa Champions League: Manchester City v Borussia Dortmund** (Kick-off 8.00). Coverage of the Group G match at Etihad Stadium

**10.30 Uefa Champions League Tonight**

**11.30-12.30am The Football's On** 2.30-6.00am Live MLB: Arizona Diamondbacks v Los Angeles Dodgers (Start-time 2.40)

## Film guide

### Film4

TV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428

**11.00am Blanche Fury (U, 1948)** Drama starring Valerie Hobson and Michael Gough  
**12.55pm Freedom Radio (PG, 1940)** Second World War drama starring Clive Brook  
**2.50 Distant Drums (U, 1951)** Western starring Gary Cooper  
**4.55 At Gunpoint (U, 1955)** Western with Fred MacMurray and Dorothy Malone  
**6.35 Sahara (12, 2005)** Adventure starring Matthew McConaughey  
**9.00 Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (12, 1984)** Action adventure starring Harrison Ford  
**11.20-1.40am Sarcario (15, 2015)** Crime drama starring Emily Blunt

### Talking Pictures TV

TV 82 FS 306 SKY 328 VIRGIN 445

**6.00am Shadow of a Man (PG, 1956)** Crime drama starring Paul Carpenter  
**7.25 Stop Press Girl (U, 1949)** Fantasy comedy starring Sally Ann Howes  
**9.00 Love and War**  
**9.30 Life With Father (U, 1947)** Period comedy starring William Powell  
**11.45 All That Mighty Heart 1963**  
**12.15pm Young and Innocent (U, 1937)** Hitchcock thriller starring Derrick De Marney  
**2.00 Upstairs, Downstairs**  
**3.00 Saddle Up**  
**3.05 California Conquest (U, 1952)** Western starring Cornel Wilde and Teresa Wright  
**4.40 Saddle Up**  
**4.45 Last of the Redmen (U, 1947)** Historical adventure starring Jon Hall  
**6.20 Saddle Up**  
**6.25 A Day of One's Own 1956**  
**6.50 The Edgar Wallace Mystery Theatre**  
**8.00 The Onedin Line**  
**9.00 The Happy Thieves (U, 1962)** Comedy starring Rex Harrison and Rita Hayworth  
**10.45 The Champions**  
**11.45-12.45am Hazel**

### GREAT! Movies

TV 34 FS 302 SKY 321 VIRGIN 425

**9.00am Pretty Little Killer (PG, 2018)** Thriller starring Heather Morris  
**10.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**11.00 Her Boyfriend's Secret (12, 2018)** Thriller starring Kelly Sullivan  
**12.50pm GREAT! Movie News**  
**1.00 Signed, Sealed, Delivered**  
**1.55 GREAT! Movie News**  
**2.01 Signed, Sealed, Delivered**  
**2.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**3.00 A Date with Murder (15, 2008)** Mystery starring Alexandra Paul  
**4.45 Will Penny (12, 1967)** Western starring Charlton Heston and Joan Hackett



Courteney Cox in *Scream* (Sky Premiere, 10.10pm)

## Radio guide

### Times Radio

Digital only

**5.00am Anna Cunningham with Early Breakfast 6.00** Aasmah Mir and Stig Abell  
**10.00 Matt Chorley 1.00pm** Mariella Frostrup 4.00 John Pienaar at Drive 7.00 Henry Bonsu 10.00 Carole Walker  
**1.00am Stories of Our Times 1.30 Red Box 2.00** Highlights from Times Radio

### Radio 2

FM: 88.90-2 MHz

**7.00 Push (12, 2009)** Sci-fi thriller starring Chris Evans  
**9.00 The Cold Light of Day (15, 2012)** Thriller starring Henry Cavill, Bruce Willis and Sigourney Weaver  
**10.50-1.05am Ned Kelly (15, 2003)** Outlaw adventure starring Heath Ledger

### TCM Movies

SKY 315 VIRGIN 415

**6.00am Hollywood's Best Film Directors**  
**6.35 Off Set**  
**6.50 Cheyenne**  
**8.45 Waterloo (U, 1970)** Drama starring Rod Steiger and Christopher Plummer  
**11.30 Cheyenne**  
**12.30pm Cheyenne**  
**1.30 One of Our Spies is Missing (U, 1966)** Man from UNCLE adventure starring David McCallum and Robert Vaughn  
**3.25 Whispering Smith (U, 1948)** Detective Western starring Alan Ladd  
**5.15 The Raiders (PG, 1964)** Western starring Robert Culp  
**6.50 Big Jake (15, 1971)** Western starring John Wayne  
**9.00 The Man from UNCLE (12, 2015)** Spy adventure starring Henry Cavill and Armie Hammer  
**11.25-1.00am Passenger 57 (15, 1992)** Action thriller starring Wesley Snipes

**Sky Cinema Premiere**  
 SKY 301 VIRGIN 401

**2.10pm Murder at Yellowstone City (15, 2022)** Western starring Gabriel Byrne and Thomas Jane  
**4.25 Stowaway (15, 2022)** Action thriller starring Ruby Rose and Frank Grillo  
**6.10 American Carnage (15, 2022)** When the children of undocumented immigrants are put in detention, they get a unique chance to win their freedom. Horror comedy starring Jenna Ortega  
**8.00 The 355 (12, 2022)** Action thriller starring Jessica Chastain, Penélope Cruz and Diane Kruger  
**10.10-12.10am Scream (18, 2022)** Horror sequel starring Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox and David Arquette

### Today's pick

#### The National Theatre with Daniel Rosenthal

#### Radio 4 Extra, 11am

Why did the National Theatre once send copies of Mozart's private correspondence to Margaret Thatcher? What happened when Paul McCartney was asked to write the music for an all-male production of *As You Like It*? There is nothing that Daniel Rosenthal doesn't know about the concrete hive of creativity on the South Bank. This three-part programme, which first



aired in 2013 to mark the National's 50th anniversary, begins with Michael Gambon, Maggie Smith, above, Derek Jacobi and Joan Plowright recalling its early years. Ben Dowell

### Radio 4

FM: 92.4-94.6 MHz  
 LW: 198 kHz MW: 720 kHz

### 5.30am News Briefing

5.43 Prayer for the Day  
**5.45 Farming Today**  
**5.58 Tweet of the Day (r)**  
**6.00 Today**  
**8.31 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament**  
**9.00 More or Less**  
**9.30 One Dish** Andi Oliver considers the schnitzel  
**9.45 Book of the Week: A Visible Man** By Edward Enninful (3/5)  
**9.45 (LW) Daily Service**  
**10.00 Woman's Hour**  
**11.00 Ugandan Asians: The Reckoning (r)**

11.30 Princess The scandalous Caroline of Brunswick

**12.01pm (LW) Shipping**  
**12.04 You and Yours**  
**1.00 The World at One**  
**1.45 The Boy in the Woods**  
**2.00 The Archers (r)**  
**2.15 Drama: Someone Dangerous** Written by Andy Mulligan (1/2) (r)

**3.00 Money Box Live**

**3.30 Robin Ince's Reality Tunnel** Stand-up show (r)

**4.00 Thinking Allowed**

**4.30 The Media Show**

**5.00 PM**

**5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast**

**6.00 Six O'Clock News**

**6.30 Joe Lycett's Obsessions**

With Lloyd Griffith and June Sarpong (4/4) (r)

**7.00 The Archers** The fallout continues at Lower Loxley

**7.15 Front Row**

**8.00 Bringing Up Britain** New series. How to climate change issues in an age-appropriate way with youngsters

**8.45 Four Thought** New series

**9.00 Costing the Earth (r)**

**9.30 The Media Show (r)**

**10.00 The World Tonight**

**10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid** By Nita Prose, read by Bridget Lappin (8/10)

**11.00 The Haunting (2/4) (r)**

**11.15 The Skewer**

**11.30 Today in Parliament**

**12.00 News and Weather**

**12.30am Book of the Week: A Visible Man** (3/5) (r)

**12.48 Shipping Forecast**

**1.00 As BBC World Service**

**3.00 Devonia 3.45 Short Works** 4.00 Booked 4.30  
**1835 5.00 Jake Yapp's Media Circus** 5.30 Joe Lycett's Obsessions 6.00 Slide 6.30  
**Pioneers 7.00 Hancock's Half Hour** 7.30 Flying the Flag  
**8.00 Death May Surprise Us** 8.30 Agatha Raisin 9.00 The National Theatre with Daniel Rosenthal 10.00 Comedy Club: Joe Lycett's Obsessions 10.30 Goodness Gracious Me 10.55 The Comedy Club Interview 11.00 What Does the K Stand For? 11.30 Simon Evans Goes to Market

### BBC World Service

Digital only

**9.00am News 9.06** The Compass: The Understory  
**9.30 Digital Planet 10.00** News 10.06 World Questions: Pakistan 11.00 The Newsroom 11.30 Untold Legends: Ora 12.00 News 12.06pm Outlook 12.50 Witness History 1.00 The Newsroom 1.30 Digital Planet 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.06 HARDtalk 3.30 Business 4.00 BBC OS 6.00 News 6.06 Outlook 6.50 Witness History 7.00 The Newsroom 7.30 Sport Today 8.00 News 8.06 The Compass 8.30 Healthcheck 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.06 HARDtalk 10.30 Untold Legends: Ora 11.00 The Newsroom 11.20 Sports News 11.30 Business 12.00 News 12.06am World Questions: Pakistan 1.00 News 1.06 Business Matters 2.00 The Newsroom 2.30 Assignment 3.00 News 3.06 Outlook 3.50 Witness History 4.00 The Newsroom 4.30 The Food Chain

### talkSPORT

MW: 1053, 1089 kHz

**5.00am Early Breakfast 6.00** Breakfast with Laura Woods, Ally McCoist and Gabby Agbonlahor 10.00 Jim White and Simon Jordan 1.00pm Hawksbee and Jacobs 4.00 Drive with Andy Goldstein and Darren Bent 7.00 Kick Off 10.00 Sports Bar 1.00am Extra Time

### TalkRadio

Digital only

**5.00am James Max 6.30** The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show 10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham 1.00pm Ian Collins 4.00 Vanessa Feltz 7.00 The News Desk 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 9.00 The Talk 10.00 Daisy McAndrew 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 12.00 Petrie Hosken 4.00am The Talk

### Radio 4 Extra

Digital only

**8.00am Hancock's Half Hour** 8.30 Flying the Flag 9.00 Booked 9.30 1835 10.00 Devonia 10.45 Short Works 11.00 The National Theatre with Daniel Rosenthal. Stories from a unique national institution. See Choice 12.00 Hancock's Half Hour 12.30pm Flying the Flag 1.00 Death May Surprise Us 1.30 Agatha Raisin 2.00

**4.00 Steve Denyer**  
**Classic FM**  
 FM: 100-102 MHz  
**6.00am Breakfast 9.00** Alexander Armstrong 12.00 Anne-Marie Minhall 4.00pm John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics 1.00am Karthi Gnanasegaram 4.00 Early Breakfast

# Wednesday 14

# Thursday 15 | Viewing guide

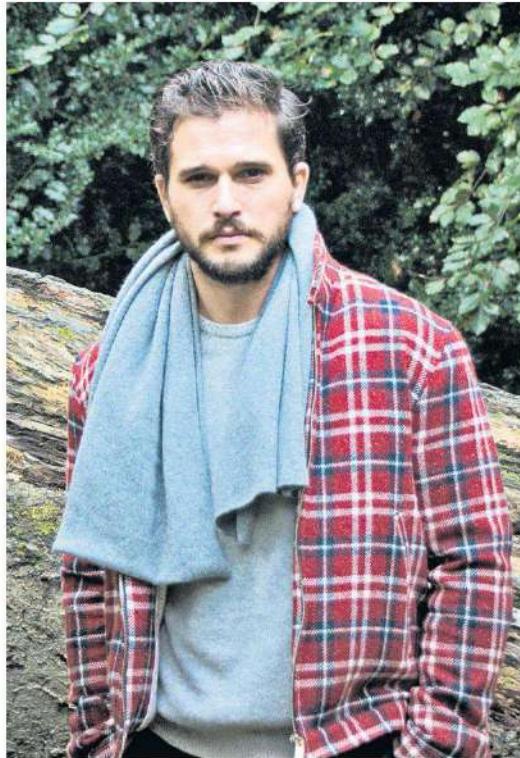
## Critic's choice

### My Grandparents' War

Channel 4, 9pm

A second run of the excellent series that is *Who Do You Think You Are?* with a focus on the Second World War begins with an absolute cracker. Kit Harington (aka Jon Snow in *Game of Thrones*) is the first celebrity to go on "a journey", and if this were a regular episode of *WDYTYA?* we'd probably be finding out about his distant ancestor John Harington, Elizabeth I's godson, who installed the first effective flushing loo in his godmother's house. Instead it's another John Harington, Kit's paternal grandfather, right with *Kit*, who also has a fascinating story to tell. John served alongside the James Bond creator Ian Fleming in Naval Intelligence and was then recruited by MI5 and MI6. John signed the Official Secrets Act, so all Harington's family knows is that their relative was connected to the controversy involving the

abdicated king, Edward VIII. Harington, who played an MI5 agent in the *Spooks* movie spin-off, wants to uncover his grandfather's hidden life as a spy, and also finds out about his grandmother Lavender, who married John just days after they met and also worked for the British secret services. Harington also explores the story of his maternal grandparents. Mick and Pippa Catesby met and fell in love during the war, but their lives were turned upside down when Mick was sent to fight in Italy. Harington finds out about the operation in which Mick lost dozens of his closest comrades, and starts to understand why his grandfather, a decorated war hero who died when he was eight, never spoke about the war. The other subjects of the four-part series are Keira Knightley, Toby Jones and Emeli Sandé. Joe Clay



## The National Television Awards

ITV, 8pm

The NTAs are voted for by the public and are therefore considered the anti-Baftas. Joel Dommett hosts the ceremony, which is broadcast live from the OVO Arena, Wembley, in front of an audience of thousands. To give you a flavour of the awards, the Netflix hit *Heartstopper* is up for New Drama and Rising Star (both its stars, Joe Locke and Kit Connor, are nominated in the latter category), with *Peaky Blinders* in contention for Returning Drama, and Cillian Murphy in the running for Drama Performance. JC

## All Creatures Great and Small

Channel 5, 9pm

The third series of the wonderful revival of the veterinary drama begins in the summer of 1939 with war looming large. James Herriot (Nicholas Ralph) smiles admiringly as a biplane with RAF insignia soars overhead. James has another reason to smile as he is set to marry Helen (Rachel Shenton); that's if he can survive his stag night, organised by Tristan (Callum Woodhouse). Last-minute nerves and sick animals add jeopardy, while barbed remarks from Siegfried (Samuel West) inject some vinegar into the comforting brew. JC

## Huge Homes with Hugh Dennis

More4, 9pm

It's impossible to watch this series, in which Hugh Dennis takes us inside some of the most sprawling piles in the UK, without one burning question dominating your thoughts – how much does it cost to heat it? Tonight, Dennis meets three owners who have pushed boundaries to create their dream home. In Berkshire, he visits a labyrinthine house with a moat, a throne room and the mock ruins of a faux medieval abbey; while in Staffordshire there's a Jacobean stately pile complete with a raft of gadgets and a resident ghost known as "Red Socks". JC

## Stuck

BBC2, 10pm

Another double bill of Dylan Moran's warts-and-all relationship comedy. Carla (Morgana Robinson) is ribbing Dan (Moran) about his "manzoobs" so he heads out on a shopping spree to buy a shirt tight enough to hold back the flabby bits. But when he returns he finds that Carla has invited an old (female) flame back to their flat to catch up, which only adds to Dan's insecurities. In the second episode, the cracks in their relationship widen as Dan struggles to find a job. Moran's lyrical dialogue, Robinson's versatility as an actress and the surreal interludes make this a cut above most comedies. JC

## Films of the day

### The Elephant Man (PG, 1980)

BBC4, 9pm

With his second feature film David Lynch struck a successful balance between comparatively straight storytelling and the macabre atmospherics with which he made his name. John Hurt stars as John Merrick, dubbed the "elephant man" because of his severe facial deformities. Merrick ekes out a miserable existence as a sideshow freak until a benevolent doctor, Frederick Treves (Anthony Hopkins), rescues him. It's then that the extent of Merrick's sensitivity and intellect becomes clear. This brooding take on a real-life tale (although he was called Joseph Merrick) is a work of potency and, thanks to the camerawork of Freddie Francis, beauty. Film fact: Lynch tried to do Hurt's elaborate prosthetic make-up himself but wasn't capable. (124min) Wendy Ide



## Regional programmes

### • BBC1 N Ireland As BBC1 except:

10.40pm The View 11.20 Question Time 12.20am The Ulster Rugby Show. A look ahead to the start of the United Rugby Championship campaign (r) 12.50

Newscast 1.20-6.00 BBC News

• BBC2 N Ireland As BBC2 except: 7.00pm-8.00 The Motorcycle Mavericks.

The history of road racing and engineering in Northern Ireland (r) 10.00-10.30 The Ulster Rugby Show 11.15 Stuck 11.30 Stuck 11.45 Cricket: Women's T20 Highlights 12.15-12.45am QI

• BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 except: 11.15am

Bargain Hunt. From Leominster (r) 12.00-1.00pm Scottish First Minister's Questions 7.00-7.30 River City. Karen makes a life-threatening decision (r)

• ITV Wales As ITV except: 11.20pm Fishlock's Choice. Trevor discovers a fantastic collection of theatre and cinema organs 11.50-12.15am Wales on TV (r)

• STV As ITV except: 11.05-11.20pm STV News 12.15-3.00am Teleshopping 3.50-5.05 Unwind with STV

• BBC Scotland 7.00pm My Kind of Town: Shots (r) 7.30 Island Medics (r) 8.00 Beechgrove 8.30 Roaming in the Wild (r) 9.00 The Nine 10.00 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling 10.30 Shetland (r)

11.30-Midnight Scary Adult Things (r)

### • S4C 6.00am Cyw: Peppa (r) 6.05 Jen a Jim a'r Cywiadur (r) 6.20 Y Brodry Coala (r) 6.30 Dwyllo'r Enfys (r) 6.45 Caru Canu (r) 6.55 Shwshaswyn (r) 7.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni 7.15 Nico Nôg (r) 7.25 Pablo 7.40 Ahol! 8.00 Bing (r) 8.10 Wibit Sochn y Mochyn (r) 8.20 Y Diwrnod Mawr (r) 8.35 DigiBri (r) 8.45 Asra (r) 9.00 Olobos (r) 9.05 Blero yn Mynd i Ocidio (r) 9.20 Oli Wyn (r) 9.30 Guto Gwningeon (r) 9.45 Caecamwnci (r) 10.00 Peppa (r) 10.05 Jen a Jim a'r Cywiadur (r) 10.20 Y Brodry Coala (r) 10.30 Dwyllo'r Enfys (r) 10.45 Caru Canu (r) 10.55 Shwshaswyn (r) 11.05 Ein Byd Bach Ni (r) 11.15 Nico Nôg (r) 11.25 Pablo (r) 11.45 Ahol! (r) 12.00 News 12.05pm Sain Ffagan (r) 12.30 Heno (r) 1.00 Pysgod i Bawb (r) 1.30 Sqwrs Dan y Lloer (r) 2.00 News 2.05 Prynhwawn Da 3.00 News 3.05 Symud i Gymru (r) 4.00 Awr Fawr: Peppa (r) 4.05 Caru Canu a Stori (r) 4.15 Ein Byd Bach Ni (r) 4.25 Pablo (r) 4.40 Ahol! (r) 5.00 Stwnsh: Cath-odr (r) 5.10 Y Doniol (r) 5.55 Feil 6.00 Coddi Pa (r) 6.30 Richard Holt: Yr Academi Felys (r) 6.57 News 8.45 7.00 Heno 7.30 News 8.00 Pobol y Cwm 8.25 Rownd a Rownd 8.55 News 9.00 Pawb a'l Farm 10.00 Rygbri Pawb 10.45-11.50 Gwesty Adnriad (r) (r) repeat (SL) In-vision signing

## Catch up

### Secrets of the Spies ITV Hub

This three-part series about espionage examines its subject by providing a sweeping history in a narrative that can jump about a little too frenetically and often includes cases that are quite well known. This includes Kim Philby's betrayal, although it is instructive to compare his



case with contemporary MI6 operative Aileen Dean's. Even a cad like Philby, below, must have also lived with a constant dread of being given away and, like Dean, had to live by his wits. We also hear about the Polish double agent Roman Czerniawski, who played a significant role in Operation Double Cross, which aimed to convince Germany that the Allies were going to land in Pas de Calais in 1944. The programme is helped by talking heads including David Omand, the former head of GCHQ, alongside personal accounts from Kim Philby's granddaughter Charlotte. Ben Dowell

### Moffie (18, 2019)

Film4, 1.45am

An extraordinary, brutalising military drama based on the autobiography of a teenage recruit, André Carl van der Merwe. It is set in Eighties South Africa, where a young army recruit called Nicholas (Kai Luke Brümmer) questions his sexuality (being gay is a punishable offence) and is put through the mill by the fearsome Sergeant Brand (Hilton Pelsier). When Nicholas falls over on the training ground, Brand kicks him in the face (there is blood). When a fellow recruit vomits with exhaustion, Brand pushes him into the dirt and yells: "Put that puke back into your fokken mouth!" However, when a connection grows between Nicholas and another recruit, Dylan (Ryan de Villiers), their relationship is as much of a danger as the impending front line. (104min) Kevin Maher

**Also available online and on tablet**

Digital subscribers can now use our interactive seven-day guide with comprehensive listings of all TV channels  
[thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner](http://thetimes.co.uk/tvplanner)

**Thursday 15****BBC1**

**6.00am** Breakfast 9.15 Morning Live  
**10.00** Dom Does America (r) **10.45**  
 Claimed and Shamed (r) **11.15** Homes Under the Hammer **12.15pm** Bargain Hunt (r) **1.00** BBC News at One; Weather **1.30** BBC Regional News; Weather **1.45** Doctors. A faces his greatest fear **2.15** Money for Nothing. A wooden television stand and a massive mirror are among the items needing a spruce up (r) **3.00** Escape to the Country. A south London couple seek to swap city life for rural Devon **3.45** The Bidding Room. A vintage scooter and a birthing chair are up for auction (r) **4.30** Antiques Road Trip. Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott find items of interest in Devon **5.15** Pointless. Quiz **6.00** BBC News at Six; Weather **6.30** BBC Regional News; Weather



Ambulance concludes (9pm)

**7.00** The One Show Alex Jones and Ronan Keating present the live magazine show  
**7.30** EastEnders Dotty makes a confession to Vinny

**8.00** Celebrity MasterChef The final four produce a fantastical theatrical showstopping dish, then the surviving three encounter Italian chef Giorgio Locatelli who sets The Chef's Table challenge

**9.00** Ambulance Crewmates Paula and Phil attend a patient who is feeling suicidal. The call out takes a turn when their charge begins hallucinating in the back of the ambulance (6/6)

**10.00BBC News at Ten**

**10.30 BBC Regional News**

**10.40 Question Time** Fiona Bruce hosts the topical debate, with a panel of politicians and other guests facing questions from the audience

**11.40 Newscast** A weekly round-up from Westminster, delivering the usual mix of serious analysis and light-hearted gossip about the biggest stories in politics

**12.10am** Weather for the Week Ahead  
**12.15 BBC News.** The latest headlines

**BBC2**

**6.30am** Money for Nothing (r) **7.15** Antiques Road Trip (r) **8.00** Sign Zone: Fake or Fortune? (r) (SL) **9.00** BBC News **10.00** BBC News **12.15pm** Politics Live **1.00** Chase the Case (r) **1.45** Eggheads (r) **2.15** Glorious Gardens from Above (r) **3.00** Flipping Profit. Charles Hanson, Linda Lambert and Zoe Pocock head to Cambridge (r) **3.45** Wanted: A Simple Life. A couple try to persuade their sons to swap London for Norfolk (r) **4.30** Murder, Mystery and My Family. The murder of a reclusive pensioner in Scotland in 1952 (r) **5.15** Flog It!. Anita Manning and Nick Davies value items in Reading (r) **6.00** Richard Osman's House of Games. With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell **6.30** Unbeatable. General knowledge quiz with Jason Manford



Inventive comedy Stuck (10pm)

**7.00** Celebrity Antiques Road Trip The actors Robert Daws and Mark Curry go antique hunting in Lancashire, where Roo Irvine and Izzy Balmer offer expert advice (r)

**8.00** Saving Lives at Sea On Ireland's north-west coast, the RNLI crew at Bundoran races to the rescue of a teenage girl who has been swept out to sea by a rip-current (4/10)

**9.00** All That Glitters: Britain's Next Jewellery Star The jewellers have to make a best-selling brooch inspired by Birmingham's rich culture and heritage, plus a totally bespoke ear cuff for Elliot to wear to a special LGBTQ+ event (4/6)

**10.00Stuck** Dan is feeling insecure about his body. See Viewing Guide (3/5)

**10.15 Stuck** Carla struggles to contain Joy's anxiety. See Viewing Guide (4/5)

**10.30 Newsnight** With Mark Urban

**11.15 Cricket: Women's T20 Highlights** England v India

**11.45 Days That Shook the BBC with David Dimbleby** David explores the BBC's relationship with the British people, asking how the BBC can seek to serve its entire audience, amid challenges to its impartiality (3/3) (r)

**12.45am** Stolen: Catching the Art Thieves. Accounts of Europe's most daring art heists (r) **1.45-3.15** Sign Zone: Blackpool's Dance Fever (r) (SL)

**ITV**

**6.00am** Good Morning Britain **9.00** Lorraine **10.00** This Morning **12.30pm** Loose Women **1.30** ITV News; Weather **1.55** Regional News; Weather **2.00** Dickinson's Real Deal. David Dickinson is joined in Crewe by dealers Fay Rutter, James Layte, Simon Schneider and Jo Brayshaw **3.00** Tenable. A team of five friends from Sheffield answer questions about top 10 lists, then try to score a perfect 10 in the final round. Presented by Warwick Davis **4.00** Tipping Point. Ben Shephard hosts the arcade-themed quiz in which contestants drop tokens down a choice of four chutes in the hope of winning a £10,000 jackpot **5.00** The Chase. Another batch of contestants take part **6.00** Regional News; Weather **6.30** ITV News; Weather



Host Joel Dommett (8pm)

**7.30** Emmerdale An excited Charity prepares for her trip away

**8.00** The National Television Awards 2022 Joel Dommett hosts the 27th edition of the ceremony, as stars and fans gather for one of the biggest nights in British TV, live from the OVO Arena, Wembley. See Viewing Guide

**9.00** My Grandparents' War New series. The actor Kit Harington digs into his grandparents' experiences during the Second World War. See Viewing Guide

**10.30 ITV News;** followed by Weather

**11.05** Regional News; Weather

**11.20 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?** Jeremy Clarkson hosts the big money quiz, welcoming more winners from new sister show *Fastest Finger First* for the chance to win a life-changing one million pounds (r)

**12.15am** All Elite Wrestling: Rampage **1.10** Teleshopping **3.00** Dickinson's Real Deal. David Dickinson and the team visit Crewe to value more items (r) (SL) **3.50** Unwind with ITV **5.05** Garraway's Good Stuff (r) (SL)

**Channel 4**

**6.10am** Countdown (r) **6.50** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.15** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **9.00** Frasier (r) **9.30** Frasier (r) **10.00** Frasier (r) **10.30** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (r) **11.25** Channel 4 News Summary **11.30** The Great House Giveaway (r) **12.30pm** Steph's Packed Lunch **2.10** Countdown. Rick Edwards is in Dictionary Corner **3.00** A Place in the Sun. Danni Menzies helps two sisters buy a family property in Cadiz (r) **4.00** Château DIY. Becky and Mark embark on a huge gite project **5.00** Moneybags. Quiz, hosted by Craig Charles **6.00** The Simpsons (r) **6.30** Hollyoaks. Sid tries to persuade Lizzie to go on holiday with him (r)



Village Rockstars (2am)

**7.00** Channel 4 News Including sport and weather

**8.00** George Clarke's Old House, New Home George helps transform a Clapham terrace that needs to accommodate three generations of the same family, and meets a couple tackling their 16th-century gatehouse in Hove (4/5) (r)

**9.00** My Grandparents' War New series. The actor Kit Harington digs into his grandparents' experiences during the Second World War. See Viewing Guide

**10.00Naked Attraction** Anna Richardson offers relationship help and advice to a 24-year-old Manchester student and a 28-year-old gay divorcee

**11.05 Embarrassing Bodies** Dr Anand treats a young woman whose nipple fell off and nearly lost her life due to a boob job in Turkey. Dr Tosin helps a man with a phobia of the dentist (r)

**12.10am** First Dates Hotel (r) (SL) **1.05** Finding the Cornish Dream (r) (SL) **2.00** FILM Village Rockstars (U, 2017) Drama **3.30** Couples Come Dine with Me (r) **4.20** Perfect House, Secret Location (r) (SL) **5.15** The Great Home Transformation (r) (SL)

**Channel 5**

**6.00am** Milkshake! **9.15** Jeremy Vine **12.45pm** Holiday Homes in the Sun. Amanda Lamb, JB Gill and Sam Pinkham visit Fuerteventura **1.40** 5 News at Lunchtime **1.45** Home and Away. Ziggy is not happy that Theo has been neglecting his TAFE work. Eden notices Kirby acting strangely, and later offers to cover Felicity's shifts at Salt **2.15** FILM My Killer Twin (PG, TVM, 2021) A woman moves back to her home town only to discover she has a long-lost twin, but her newfound sister might be a murderer. Thriller starring Emily Piggford **4.00** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. Wayne, a one-man Beatles tribute act, performs up and down the Costa del Sol (r) **5.00** 5 News at 5 **6.00** Cash in the Attic. Helping people make money **6.55** 5 News Update



All Creatures Great &amp; Small (9pm)

**7.00** Costco: How Do They Really Do It? A look at the workings of the membership-only retailer, examining if its own-brand products are really premium ones in disguise, and putting them to the test (r)  
**7.55** 5 News Update

**8.00** Save Money on Your Supermarket Shop Alexis Conran investigates how supermarket clothing matches up to the high street for quality and cost, and Angellica Bell investigates healthy offal (3/6); followed by 5 News Update

**9.00** All Creatures Great and Small New series. Return of the drama starring Nicholas Ralph and Samuel West. Three months have passed and it is now spring 1939, with changes happening at Skeldale. See Viewing Guide (1/6)

**10.00** Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild Ben meets a photographer living off the land in Oregon, who lives by catching fish and harvesting wild weeds and has built his own Native American sweat lodge (5/5) (r)

**11.05** Police: Night Shift 999 Sgt Gladwin is caught off guard when a routine area search leaves him surrounded by an aggressive family, while a violent shoplifter is cornered in a supermarket (3/6) (r)

**12.05am** Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders (r) **1.00** The LeoVegas Live Casino Show **3.00** Entertainment News on 5 **3.05** What a Treat! Our Favourite Sweets (r) **4.45** Amazing Cakes & Bakes (r) **5.30** Milkshake!

# Thursday 15 | Primetime digital guide

FV Freeview FS Freesat



## The Krays

Gary and Martin Kemp play the gangster brothers, with Billie Whitelaw as their mum  
**ITV4, 10pm**

### TalkTV

FV 237, FS 217, SKY 526, VIRGIN 627

- 6.00am James Max** The host's early breakfast show
- 6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show**
- 10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham** The host look at the newspapers, and brings a much needed dose of common sense to the day's big stories
- 1.00pm Ian Collins** Hard-hitting monologues and debates
- 4.00 Vanessa Feltz**
- 7.00 The News Desk with Tom Newton Dunn** Tackling the biggest stories of the day
- 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored** The host presents his verdict on the day's global events with a debate
- 9.00 The Talk** Sharon Osbourne and a panel of famous faces debate the hot topics everybody's talking about
- 10.00 The James Whale Show**
- 11.00-12.00m Piers Morgan Uncensored**

### BBC3

FV 23, FS 179, SKY 117, VIRGIN 107

- 7.00pm Top Gear** The team takes some of greatest-ever cars featured in James Bond movies for a spin (2/4)
- 8.00 MOTDx** Football discussion with Jermaine Jenas
- 8.30 Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond** Engineer Sara undertakes the most important job of her career
- 9.00 The Rap Game UK** The final week sees the three remaining artists perform for the last time (6/6)
- 10.00 People Just Do Nothing** Steves has an important visit from his probation officer (4/6)
- 10.30 People Just Do Nothing** Miche plans a big birthday meal for Grindah (5/6)
- 11.00 People Just Do Nothing** The end of Kurupt FM sees Grindah bid farewell to Brentford (6/6)
- 11.30 This Is Amapiano**
- 12.00-1.00am The Rap Game UK**

### BBC4

FV 9/24, FS 173, SKY 116, VIRGIN 108

- 7.00pm Art. Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection** How royal collecting has changed since the days of Queen Victoria (4/4)
- 8.00 The Last Days of Anne Boleyn** The circumstances surrounding the execution of Henry VIII's second wife
- 9.00 FILM The Elephant Man** (PG, 1980) A disfigured man's life is transformed by his friendship with a respected doctor in Victorian London. Fact-based drama starring John Hurt. See **Film Choice**
- 11.00 The Sky at Night** The team explores the world of astrophotography
- 11.30-12.30am Afghanistan: The Great Game: A Personal View by Rory Stewart** First of two documentaries exploring the invasions of Afghanistan

### More 4

FV 18, FS 124, SKY 136, VIRGIN 147

- 6.55pm Escape to the Château As** the beginning of autumn arrives, Dick Strawbridge passes on his conker skills to the family, before the serious business resumes and the next phase of the renovation begins (6/8)
- 7.55 Wondrous Wales** A look at the people who live and work in and around the remarkable landscapes of Wales's three national parks, such as fishermen and cattle farmers (1/5)
- 9.00 Huge Homes with Hugh Dennis** The actor visits an extraordinary labyrinthine home in Berkshire. See **Viewing Guide** (3/4)
- 10.00 Grand Designs Australia** A couple create a multi-story modern home with a triple car-stacker
- 11.05-12.05am 24 Hours in A&E** A nine-year-old boy has a dangerously high heart rate

### Sky Atlantic

SKY 108

- 6.50pm The Sopranos** Tony's affair with Gloria turns violent, and Jackie Jr tries to follow in Ralph's footsteps by proving himself as a hardcore criminal (12/13) (R)
- 7.55 Game of Thrones** Tyrion defends King's Landing against Stannis Baratheon's naval assault (9/10) (R)
- 9.00 I Hate Suzie** Suzie gives a disastrous interview and struggles to make peace with her own desires. Naomi is in hard-core damage control mode (4/8) (R)
- 9.45 The Staircase** In 2003, tensions rise and old wounds reopen as the Petersons' eldest son Clayton returns home, and unwittingly makes a critical discovery (4/8) (R)
- 11.00-12.05am House of the Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel starring Paddy Considine (4/10) (R)

### Sky Documentaries

SKY 121, VIRGIN 278

- 6.50pm Allen v. Farrow** An exploration of the Woody Allen sexual abuse allegation. Mia Farrow recounts her relationship with Allen, once a beloved father figure to her seven children (1/4) (R)
- 8.00 The Vietnam War North** Vietnamese troops stream down the Ho Chi Minh Trail into the south, while Saigon struggles to pacify the countryside and the anti-war movement builds back in the US (4/10) (R)
- 9.00 Chaos in Kabul: Escaping the Taliban** Investigating the story of the UK's chaotic exit from Afghanistan
- 10.00 FILM The Longest War (15, 2020)** Exploring the stories behind America's involvement in Afghanistan
- 11.40-12.10am PL Legends** A profile of former Arsenal striker Thierry Henry (R)

### ITV2

FV 6, FS 113, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**7.00pm Secret Crush** Courtney has had a crush on her best friend and is not sure he is into women, but she is ready to give it a shot

**8.00 Bob's Burgers**

**8.30 Bob's Burgers**

**9.00 Gordon, Gino and Fred: American Road Trip (4/4)**

**10.00 Shopping with Keith Lemon** With Sharon Osbourne and Aitch

**10.30 Family Guy**

**11.00 Family Guy**

**11.30 American Dad!**

**12.00-1.30am American Dad!**

### ITV3

FV 10, FS 115, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**7.00pm Heartbeat** A farming couple go missing

**8.00 Vera** The murder of a cleaner whose death occurred several hours after the killer blow puts DCI Vera Stanhope on an intriguing trail, as she pieces together his final hours

**10.00 Professor T** Jasper thinks a vulnerable girl may be a murder witness (5/6)

**10.45-11.00am Professor T** An attempt is made on a billionaire businessman's life (6/6)

### ITV4

FV 26, FS 117, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**5.30pm ITV Racing** The Racing League reaches its conclusion with the final races of the competition coming from Newcastle

**9.00 World Rally Championship Highlights** The Acropolis Rally Greece. Action from the 10th round of the campaign

**10.00-12.30am FILM The Krays (18, 1990)** Biopic of the ruthless twins who ruled east London's gangland with a rod of iron in the 1960s. With Gary and Martin Kemp, Billie Whitelaw and Tom Bell

### E4

FV 13, FS 122, SKY 135, VIRGIN 106

**7.00pm Hollyoaks**

**7.30 The Big Bang Theory**

**8.00 Below Deck: Mediterranean** Danny disobeys a direct order

**9.00 Married at First Sight UK** Wedding bells chime once more, as two new surprise couples meet

**10.00 Dirty House Rescue: Queens of Clean** Adam and Charnel head to London, where the writing is on the wall for 18-year-old DJ Jolie, whose bedroom wall has become a graffiti free-for-all

**11.05-12.05am Gogglebox**

### Dave

FV 19, FS 157, SKY 111

**7.00pm Richard Osman's House of Games** With Nish Kumar, Clara Amfo, Anneke Rice and Al Murray

**7.40 Room 101**

**8.20 Would I Lie to You?**

**9.00 QI XL** With Sarah Millican, Tommy Tiernan and Josh Widdicombe

**10.00 Late Night Mash** Rachel Parris and guests to deliver topical insights and fake news reports

**11.00 Question Team** With Jo Brand and Bill Bailey

**12.00-12.40am Mock the Week**

### Drama

FV 20, FS 158, SKY 143, VIRGIN 130

**6.40pm 'Allo 'Allo!** Presuming René is dead, Edith hunts for his will and a new husband

**7.20 Last of the Summer Wine** The trio encounter a man with an inflatable doll

**8.00 Judge John Deed** A doctor is accused of murdering a patient with a morphine overdose

**10.00 New Tricks** The detectives reopen the case of a pub landlord killed in a fire

**11.20-12.40am Spooks** Zaf goes undercover. Raza Jaffrey stars

### Yesterday

FV 27, FS 159, SKY 155, VIRGIN 129

**7.00pm Abandoned Engineering** A German battleship that sank in a Norwegian fjord

**8.00 Bangers and Cash** Dave finds two rare Fiats and a VW Corrado (3/15)

**9.00 Train Truckers** The Train Truckers attempt to move a 100-ton diesel engine to a gala extravaganza (8/8)

**10.00 Bangers and Cash**

**11.00 Abandoned Engineering**

**12.00-1.00am The Architecture of the Railways Built**

### PBS America

FV 84, FS 155, SKY 174, VIRGIN 273

**6.25pm The Atom and Us** The history of nuclear power

**7.35 The Silk Road** Sam Willis travels through Central Asia (2/3)

**8.50 The Last Voices of World War One** Veterans tell the story of the Battle of the Somme (2/6)

**9.50 Nazi Hunters** The efforts of the Israeli secret service to find Adolf Eichmann (2/8)

**10.45 The Silk Road** Sam Willis travels through Central Asia (2/3)

**12.00-1.15am The Atom and Us** The history of nuclear power

### Smithsonian

FV 57, FS 175, SKY 171, VIRGIN 276

**7.00pm America** An aerial tour of Florida's peninsula and panhandle

**8.00 Inside the Factory** Behind the scenes at a Grimsby fish finger factory

**9.00 How Did They Build That?** The design and engineering stories behind three iconic venues

**10.00 Ice Airport Alaska** A cargo plane suffers a serious malfunction

**11.00 How Did They Build That?**

**12.00-1.00am How Did They Build That? Three iconic venues**

### Sky Arts

FV 11, FS 147, SKY 130, VIRGIN 165

**7.00pm Discovering: Robert Donat** A look at the life of the Oscar-winning English actor (10/13)

**8.00 Lenny Henry's Got the Blues** The actor explores Britain's failure to produce acclaimed blues stars

**9.00 The Directors**

**10.00 Discovering: George Clooney** Profile of the actor

**11.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents**

**12.00-1.20am FILM David Gilmour: Live at Pompeii (2017)** Highlights of the guitarist's solo concerts from July 2016

### Sky History

SKY 123, VIRGIN 270

**7.00pm Forged in Fire** A contest to recreate the legendary sword of King Charlemagne – the Joyeuse Earth into jeopardy

**8.00 Pawn Stars** Chum gets his hands on a one-of-a-kind chair with a strange feature

**9.00 Forged in Fire Four** Bladesmiths are given thin sheet metal to forge a knife

**10.00 Alone** The survivalists look for new ways to hunt and to preserve their food sources

**11.30-12.30am The American Presidency** with Bill Clinton (2/6)

### Sky Max

SKY 113, VIRGIN 122

**7.00pm Stargate SG-1** (1/2) the Stargate malfunctions, plunging Earth into jeopardy

**8.00 An Idiot Abroad** Karl Pilkington travels to Africa to spend time with gorillas

**9.00 A League of Their Own** With Kyle Walker, Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams

**10.00 Cricket's Funniest Moments**

**10.30 The Russell Howard Hour**

**11.15 Never Mind the Buzzcocks**

**12.00-1.00am COBRA: Cyberwar** The cyber-attack continues (2/6)

### Discovery

SKY 125, VIRGIN 250

**7.00pm Junkyard Empire**

**8.00 Railroad Alaska**

**9.00 Naked and Afraid XL** An overnight snowstorm tests the survivalists' will, leading to a leadership change

**10.00 Naked and Afraid: Alone**

**11.00 Yukon Men**

**12.00-1.00am The Alaska Triangle**

### Nat Geographic

SKY 129, VIRGIN 266, BT 351

**7.00pm Air Crash Investigation** A cargo plane crashes within a mile of the airport

**8.00 Europe from Above** An aerial journey across Romania

**9.00 Wicked Tuna**

**10.00 To Catch a Smuggler (2/16)**

**11.00 Air Crash Investigation**

**12.00-1.00am Car SOS (9/9)**

### Sky Comedy

SKY 114, VIRGIN 135, BT 346

**7.00pm Everybody Hates Chris**

**7.30 The Office (US)**

**9.00 Intelligence (5/6)**

**9.30 Intelligence (6/6)**

**10.00 Bloods (8/10)**

**10.30 Sex and the City**

**11.10 Sex and the City**

**11.45-12.40am The Late Late Show with James Corden**

### Comedy Central

SKY 112, VIRGIN 181, BT 344

**7.00pm Friends**

**9.00 Michael McIntyre's Big Show** With Camila Cabello and Westlife

**10.00 South Park**

**10.30 South Park**

**11.00 The Ren & Stimpy Show**

**11.30 The Ren & Stimpy Show**

**12.00-12.30am The Ren & Stimpy Show**

**12.30-1.30am The Cockfields**

### Gold

SKY 110, VIRGIN 124

**6.40pm Dad's Army**

**7.20 Dad's Army**

**8.00 Only Fools and Horses**

**8.40 Murder, They Hope** A twisted serial killer is on the loose

**9.40 Bottom**

**10.20 Bottom**

**11.00 Live at the Apollo**

**12.00-12.35am The Cockfields**

### W

FV 25, FS 156, SKY 132

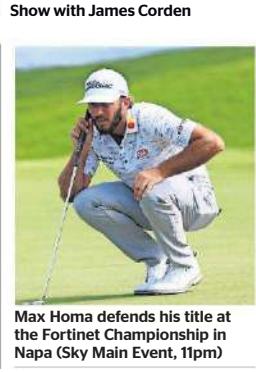
**7.00pm MasterChef Australia**

**9.00 Emma Willis: Delivering Babies** New series. Emma is given a refresher on the jobs she'll be expected to soon carry out alone

**10.00 Nurses on the Ward**

**11.00 Inside the Ambulance: Coast and Country**

**12.00-1.00am 999 Rescue Squad**



Max Homa defends his title at the Fortinet Championship in Napa (Sky Main Event, 11pm)

### Sky Cricket

SKY 404, VIRGIN 514

**6.00pm Live Women's International T20 Cricket: England v India** Coverage of the third match of the series, which comes from Seat Unique Stadium in Bristol

**10.00 Talking Cricket** The story of South Africa's most successful captain, Graeme Smith

**10.30 Graeme Swann Spin Bowling Clinic** The former England bowler provides tips and tricks

**11.00-12.00m Best of England v South Africa**

### BT Sport 1

SKY 413, VIRGIN 527, BT 430

**2.30-6.45pm Live Hero CPL: Barbados Royals v Jamaica Tallawahs**

**7.00 Premier League Reload**

**7.15 Live Uefa Europa League: Arsenal v PSV Eindhoven (Kick-off 8.00)** Coverage of the Group A match at Emirates Stadium

**10.30 The Football's On**

**11.30 Premier League: The Big Interview**

**12.00-3.30am Live MLB: New York Mets v Pittsburgh Pirates** (Start-time 12.20)

### BT Sport 2

SKY 414, VIRGIN 528, BT 431

**5.15pm Live Uefa Europa League: Sheriff Tiraspol v Manchester United** (Kick-off 5.45). Coverage of the Group B match at Zimbru Stadium in Chisinau, Moldova

**7.45 Live Uefa Europa Conference League: Silkeborg IF v West Ham United** (Kick-off 8.00). Coverage of the Group A match at Emirates Stadium

**10.30 The Football's On**

**11.30 Premier League: The Big Interview**

**12.00-3.00am Live MLB: New York Mets v Pittsburgh Pirates** (Start-time 12.20)

## Film guide

### Film4

FV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428

**11.00am Red Mountain (PG, 1951)** Western starring Alan Ladd and Elizabeth Scott  
**12.45pm This Happy Breed (U, 1944)** Drama with Robert Newton and Celia Johnson  
**2.55 Dragoon Wells Massacre (PG, 1957)** Western drama starring Barry Sullivan and Dennis O'Keefe  
**4.40 Mary, Queen of Scots (PG, 1971)** Historical biopic starring Vanessa Redgrave  
**7.15 Johnny English Strikes Again (12, 2018)** Spy comedy starring Rowan Atkinson  
**9.00 Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (PG, 1989)** Action adventure sequel starring Harrison Ford and Sean Connery  
**11.35-1.45am Wind River (15, 2017)** Crime drama starring Jeremy Renner

### Talking Pictures TV

FV 82 FS 306 SKY 328 VIRGIN 445

**6.00am Mr Reeder in Room 13 (1938)** Thriller starring Gibb McLaughlin  
**7.35 Isn't Life Wonderful! (U, 1953)** Family comedy starring Donald Wolfit  
**9.15 They Knew Mr Knight (PG, 1945)** Drama starring Mervyn Johns  
**11.05 Cinema Tax Must Go**  
**11.15 The Keys of the Kingdom (PG, 1944)** Drama starring Gregory Peck  
**2.00pm Hannay**  
**3.00 Sammy Going South (U, 1963)** Drama starring Fergus McClelland  
**5.20 Dick Barton: Special Agent (U, 1948)** Second World War spy thriller starring Don Stannard  
**6.45 The Plank (U, 1967)** Slapstick comedy starring Eric Sykes and Tommy Cooper  
**7.50 Discover Britain by Train**  
**8.00 The Saint**  
**9.00 Justice**  
**10.00 The Rivals of Sherlock Holmes**  
**11.00-12.00am Widows**

### GREAT! Movies

FV 34 FS 302 SKY 321 VIRGIN 425

**9.00am Killer Reputation (PG, 2019)** Thriller with Anna Hutchison and Mark Lawson  
**10.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**11.00 A Sister's Obsession (15, 2018)** Thriller starring Lindsay Hartley and Jason Cermak  
**12.50pm GREAT! Movie News**  
**1.00 Signed, Sealed, Delivered**  
**1.55 GREAT! Movie News**  
**2.01 Signed, Sealed, Delivered**  
**2.50 GREAT! Movie News**  
**3.00 If Looks Could Kill (15, 2016)** Thriller with Stefanie Estes, Andrew Appleby and Summer Spiro  
**4.45 The President's Mistress (PG, 1978)** Drama with Beau Bridges and Larry Hagman



Sean Bean stars in Drone (GREAT! Movies, 11.05pm)

**6.50 The Net (12, 1995)** Thriller starring Sandra Bullock and Jeremy Northam  
**9.00 London Has Fallen (15, 2016)** Action thriller starring Gerard Butler  
**11.05-12.55am Drone (15, 2017)** Thriller starring Sean Bean and Patrick Sabongui

### TCM Movies

SKY 315 VIRGIN 415

**6.00am Hollywood's Best Film Directors**  
**6.35 Off Set**  
**7.00 TCM Shorts:** Ben Miller Off Set  
**7.20 Cheyenne**  
**9.15 To Trap a Spy (PG, 1966)** The Man from UNCLE thriller starring Robert Vaughn  
**11.15 Cheyenne**  
**1.30pm One Spy Too Many (PG, 1966)** Man from UNCLE adventure starring David McCallum  
**3.40 The Searchers (U, 1956)** John Ford's Western drama starring John Wayne  
**6.05 South of Death Valley (U, 1949)** Western drama starring Charles Starrett  
**7.15 Murder, She Said (PG, 1961)** Miss Marple mystery starring Margaret Rutherford  
**9.00 Dirty Harry (15, 1971)** Police thriller starring Clint Eastwood and Andy Robinson  
**11.10-1.20am Equilibrium (15, 2002)** Sci-fi adventure starring Christian Bale

### Sky Cinema Premiere

SKY 301 VIRGIN 401

**2.00pm Last Looks (15, 2021)** Thriller starring Charlie Hunnam and Mel Gibson  
**4.10 Even Mice Belong in Heaven (PG, 2021)** Animated comedy  
**5.50 The 355 (12, 2022)** Action thriller starring Jessica Chastain and Penélope Cruz  
**8.00 Belfast (12, 2021)** A young boy and his working-class family experience the tumultuous late 1960s in Belfast, Northern Ireland.  
Drama starring Jamie Dornan  
**10.00 Jackass Forever (18, 2022)** Comedy starring Johnny Knoxville  
**11.40-1.45am Scream (18, 2022)** Horror sequel starring Neve Campbell

## Radio guide

### Times Radio

Digital only

**5.00am Anna Cunningham with Early Breakfast 6.00** Aasmah Mir and Stig Abell with Times Radio Breakfast  
**10.00 Matt Charley 1.00pm** Mariella Frostrup 4.00 John Pienaar at Drive 7.00 Henry Bonus 10.00 Carole Walker 1.00am Stories of Our Times 1.30 Red Box 2.00 Highlights from Times Radio

### Radio 2

FM: 88.90.2 MHz

**6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show 9.30** Ken Bruce 12.00 Jeremy Vine 2.00pm Steve Wright 5.00 Sara Cox 6.30 Sara Cox's Half Wover 7.00 Jo Whiley's Shiny Happy Playlist 7.30 Jo Whiley 9.00 The Country Show with Bob Harris 10.00 Trevor Nelson's Magnificent 7 10.30 Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation 12.00 OJ Borg 3.00am Sounds of the 90s with Fearne Cotton (r) 4.00 A Dance Through the Decades 4.30 Early Breakfast Show

### Radio 3

FM: 90.2-92.4 MHz

**6.30am Breakfast**  
**9.00 Essential Classics**  
**12.00 Composer of the Week:** Bruckner Charting the relationship between Bruckner and music critic Hanslick  
**1.00pm Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert** Schubert (*Der Wanderer; Auf der Donau; Der Schiffer; Das Fischermaiden; L'Incanto degli ochi; Fahrt zum Hades; und Der Atlas*); and Bosmans (String Quartet); and Fauré (*La Bonne Chanson*)  
**2.00 Afternoon Concert** The Mahler Chamber Orchestra at the George Enescu International Festival. Haydn (Symphony No.31 in D major, H.31 "*Hornsignal*"); Ravel (*Tzigane*); Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No.2 in F major, Op.102); Stravinsky (*Octet for Winds*); Heinichen (*Crucifixus* from Mass No.9, S.5); and Schnittke (Concerto for Choir)  
**5.00 In Tune**  
**7.00 In Tune Mixtape**  
**7.30 Radio 3 in Concert With the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra.** Sibelius: (*Tapiola*); Kaija Saariaho (*Vista*); Schubert (Piano Sonata No 4 in A minor D537, in a recording by pianist Andreas Haefliger); and Dieter Ammann (*The Piano Concerto – Gran Toccata*)  
**10.00 Free Thinking** The quest for endless youth in literature, film, myth and philosophy  
**10.45 The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language** Questioning who the arbiters of British Sign Language are  
**11.00 The Night Tracks Mix**  
**11.30 Unclassified**  
**12.30am Through the Night (r)**

### Radio 5 Live

MW: 693, 909

**5.00am Wake Up to Money**  
**6.00 Breakfast 9.00** Nicky Campbell 11.00 Adrian Chiles

### Today's pick

#### In Our Time

#### Radio 4, 9pm

Melvyn Bragg, right, is back from his summer break with more searching and eclectic examinations of subjects discussed by experts, the rule being that academics have to be teaching the subject and that the programme steers away from being overly "relevant". More than 900 editions are already available on BBC Sounds, and they will be joined by this opener, which begins with George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four*



discussed by Lisa Mullen, a fellow at Queens' College, Cambridge, York University's John Bowen and David Dwan, a professor of English at Hertford College, Oxford. Ben Dowell

### Radio 4

FM: 92.4-94.6 MHz  
LW: 198 kHz MW: 720 kHz

### 5.30am News Briefing

5.43 Prayer for the Day  
5.45 Farming Today  
5.58 Tweet of the Day (r)

### 6.00 Today

#### 8.31 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament

#### 9.00 In Our Time

#### New series. George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. See Choice

#### 9.45 Book of the Week: A Visible Man

By Edward Einhorn (4/5)

#### 9.45 (LW) Daily Service

#### 10.00 Woman's Hour

#### 11.00 Crossing Continents

#### 11.30 Once Upon a Time

#### 12.01pm (LW) Shipping

#### 12.04 You and Yours

#### 12.30 All Consuming

#### 1.00 The World at One

#### 1.45 The Boy in the Woods

#### 2.00 The Archers (r)

#### 2.15 Drama: Murmuration

By Christine Entwistle (r)

#### 3.00 Ramblings

#### 3.27 Radio 4 Appeal (r)

#### 3.30 Open Book (r)

#### 4.00 The Curious Cases of Rutherford & Fry (r)

#### 4.30 BBC Inside Science

#### 5.00 PM

#### 5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast

#### 6.00 Six O'Clock News

#### 6.30 Michael Spicer: Before Next Door (4/4) (r)

#### 7.00 The Archers

Lynda hatches a plan

#### 7.15 Front Row

#### 8.00 The Briefing Room

#### 8.30 The Digital Human (r)

#### 9.00 BBC Inside Science (r)

#### 9.30 In Our Time (r)

#### 10.00 The World Tonight

#### 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid

By Nita Prose (9/10)

#### 11.00 Your Place or Mine

#### 11.30 Today in Parliament

#### 12.00 News and Weather

#### 12.30am Book of the Week: A Visible Man (4/5) (r)

#### 12.48 Shipping Forecast

#### 1.00 As BBC World Service

### Radio 5 Live

MW: 693, 909

#### 5.00am Wake Up to Money

#### 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell

#### 11.00 Adrian Chiles

## Thursday 15

**7.00** The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter 7.30  
**No Commitments 8.00**  
**Death May Surprise Us 8.30**  
**Agatha Raisin 9.00** Desert Island Discs 9.45 David Attenborough's Life Stories 10.00 Comedy Club: Michael Spicer – Before Next Door 10.30 Craig Brown's Lost Diaries 10.55 The Comedy Club Interview 11.00 The Consultants 11.30 Weak at the Top

### BBC World Service

Digital only

#### 9.00am News 9.06

Assignment 9.30 Healthcheck 10.00 News 10.06 The Forum 10.50 Sporting Witness 11.00 The Newsroom 11.30 The Food Chain 12.00 News 12.06pm Outlook 12.50 Witness History 1.00 The Newsroom 1.30 Healthcheck 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.06 The Inquiry 3.30 Business 4.00 BBC OS 6.00 News 6.06 Outlook 6.50 Witness History 7.00 The Newsroom 7.30 Sport Today 8.00 News 8.06 Assignment 8.30 Science in Action 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.06 The Inquiry 10.30 The Food Chain 11.00 The Newsroom 11.20 Sports News 11.30 Business 12.00 News 12.06am The Forum 12.50 Sporting Witness 1.00 The Newsroom 2.00 The Newsroom 2.30 World Football 3.00 News 3.06 Outlook 3.50 Witness History 4.00 The Newsroom 4.30 Heart and Soul

### 6 Music

Digital only

7.30am Lauren Laverne 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 10.00pm Craig Charles 4.00 Steve Lamacq 6.00 Steve Lamacq's Roundtable 7.00 Tom Robinson 9.00 Gideon Coe 12.00 New Music Fix with Steve Lamacq 1.00am New Music Fix

### Virgin Radio

Digital only

6.30am The Chris Evans Breakfast Show with Sky 10.00 Eddy Temple-Morris 10.00pm Tim Cocker 4.00 Jayne Middlemiss 7.00 Steve Denyer 10.00 Olivia Jones 1.00am Sean Goldsmith 4.00 Steve Denyer

### Classic FM

FM: 100-102 MHz

6.00am More Music Breakfast 9.00 Alexander Armstrong 12.00 Anne-Marie Minhall 4.00pm John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics 1.00am Karthi Gnanasegaram 4.00 Early Breakfast

# Friday 16 | Viewing guide

## Critic's choice

**Professor T**

ITV, 9pm

The first series of this crime drama (a remake of the Belgian hit of the same name) divided viewers. Some found its mix of offbeat humour and dark procedure to be enjoyable comfort-TV; others found it a pale imitation of the original (or as one *Times* commenter put it: "T for twaddle"). Ben Miller's professor, right, is amusingly watchable, even if the occasional flight of fancy in his imagination can seem almost a bit too whimsical. To recap, he plays the preternaturally observant Cambridge don Jasper Tempest, specialising in criminology and thus called in to help the local detectives crack their cases. He also has deep-set traumas from childhood that wake him in the night, along with OCD that means he wears a pair of surgical gloves, which rather clash with his immaculate

three-piece suits. All this is re-introduced in the first few minutes as he lectures a hall of useless top-tier students before, at the prospect of a tedious board meeting, he visualises a brass band failing to wake a snoozing colleague. These off-the-wall moments create an uneven tone to things, and yet you find yourself watching on precisely because of Professor T's quaint quirks and fastidious foibles, rather than whatever the sombre crime case is, which can seem almost an irrelevance. With Frances de la Tour in flamboyant fur hats as T's mother, this is, despite the source material, a distinctly English proposition — more at the *Midsomer Murders* end of things than the *Morse* one. In short: still a slightly strange series; Miller still the reason to watch.

James Jackson



## The Grand Tour Presents: A Scandi Flick

Amazon Prime

For the latest *Grand Tour* the catastrophe-flirting escapades take over the icy wastes of the Scandinavian Arctic Circle. In expensive parkas, Clarkson, May and Hammond skid their three favourite rally cars across frozen tundra from Norway to the Russian border, by way of a Cold War submarine base and the odd one-legged skier. It's tremendous fun, so much so that Clarkson even cracks up at a Hammond quip. Clarkson: "I am older, and with age has come..." Hammond (leaving it a beat): "Weight." JJ

## Mortimer and Whitehouse Gone Fishing

BBC2, 9pm

This week, in a search for the elusive grayling, the sixtiesomething comics up their thighs in the River Dee, on the Crogen Estate in north Wales. As ever, between the peaceable shots of lazy rivers, the conversation wanders here and there into serious territory without getting heavy. They muse on how the idea of living for ever isn't really so great. Best to enjoy life in the moment. And one moment here — the result of Bob downing a bottle of Sprite — is the funniest of the week. JJ

## Am I Being Unreasonable?

BBC1, 9.30pm

Written by and starring friends Seline Hizli and *This Country's* Daisy May Cooper, this new series is hard to neatly categorise: a warped comedy thriller, perhaps. It's certainly original in so much as you can't see where it's heading. Cooper stars as Nic, a dissatisfied wife in a village full of slightly awful mums, and grieving over a loss that she can't share with anyone. She has lost her cat. Then she meets Jen (Hizli), a newcomer in town, and she finally has a kindred spirit to confide in. A boozy night of fun ensues at Nic's — but there the plot thickens... JJ

## Martin Compston's Scottish Fling

BBC2, 9.30pm

Part two of this merry celebration of all things Scottish on the high western coast, and we're in the Hebridean Isles. As with last week's opener, the road-tripping companions Martin Compston and pal Phil MacHugh have a full-throated, intensely Scottish joie de vivre, roaring with laughter and good-humour as they eat a local recipe in the ruins of an old croft, visit a Syrian barber in Stornoway and so on, before ending up on Uist where Marty makes his debut for Eriskay Football Club. It has a very likeable vibe to it. JJ

## Films of the day

### Night of the Living Dead (15, 1968)

Talking Pictures TV, 9.05pm

"I felt real terror in that neighbourhood theatre." That was how a young film critic named Roger Ebert summed up his experience of watching George A Romero's zombie touchstone classic. Ebert's review hints at just how much of a game-changer *Night of the Living Dead* was. In a little over 90 minutes, horror movies changed from being titillating, spooky thrills into something that could genuinely terrify. It's a must-see for film fans. Holed up in a barn in rural Pennsylvania, a group of survivors battle the new zombie terror as the dead start to come back to life. And, boy, are they hungry. When the zombies are eating the bodies in the burnt-out truck, they were actually eating roast ham covered in chocolate sauce. (96min) Chris Bennion



## Catch up

### Wonderland Sky/Now

Adrian Munsey's excellent four-part series explores a golden age of children's literature, starting with the publication of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* in 1865. For a remarkable 75-year period in Britain an unforgettable collection of classic children's literature was



created including *Swallows and Amazons*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Jungle Book*, *Winnie-the-Pooh* and *Peter Pan*. But as Munsey's series reveals, the writers who created these "wonderlands" often had unhappy lives, using their creativity as a way of coping with and overcoming terrible adversities. "For Carroll [left] and his contemporaries, childhood is... an age of bliss that's protected and is, in some ways, the highest point of life," says Professor Kiera Vaclavik, one of the many literary experts who contribute to the series. Joe Clay

## Regional programmes

- BBC1 Wales As BBC1 except: 7.30pm Wales' Home of the Year 8.00-8.30am Iolo: A Wild Life 10.40 Rewind: 60 Years of Welsh Pop 11.10 Wales: Music Nation with Huw Stephens (r) 12.10am Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next (r) 11.0-1.35 Ladhood
- BBC2 Wales As BBC2 except: 7.00pm Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing 7.30 Live Scrum V: Cardiff v Munster (Kick-off 7.35) 9.30-10.30 Gardeners' World: Pruning raspberries 11.00 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling 11.30 Mock the Week 12.05-12.35am MOTDx (r)
- BBC1 N Ireland As BBC1 except: 7.30-8.00pm Paula McIntyre's Hamely Kitchen: Mouth-watering recipes
- BBC2 N Ireland As BBC2 except: 10.00-10.30pm Cliona & Simon: From This Moment On (r) 11.00 Mock the Week 11.35 MOTDx (r) 12.05-12.35am Frankie Boyle's Tour of Scotland
- BBC1 Scotland As BBC1 except: 11.15-12.15pm Homes Under the Hammer 7.30 Agricultural Renovators 8.00-8.30 Iain Robertson Rambles (r) 10.40 Question of Sport (r) 11.10 FILM *Braveheart* (1995) 1.55am Weather for the week ahead 2.00-6.00 BBC News
- ITV Wales As ITV except: 7.00-7.30pm Welsh Lives. Adeola Dewis visits the seaside town of Barry Island

(r) repeat (SL) In-vision signing

### Braveheart (15, 1995)

BBC1, 10.40pm

Mel Gibson's elastic approach to historical accuracy didn't get in the way of the really important elements of his portrait of the medieval Scottish patriot William Wallace; specifically, the gut-splattering action and epic levels of violence. Gibson stars as Wallace, a righteous man driven single-handedly to slay most of the English army after his sweetheart is murdered by one of its soldiers. It's a vanity piece, rather lacking in subtlety (it was also voted by *Empire* magazine as the worst film to win the best picture Oscar), but Gibson shows flair and cinematic bloodlust when it comes to directing the battles. Many Scots were offended by the film's portrayal of Robert the Bruce, who is considered a national hero. (170min) Wendy Ide

**TV newsletter**

Sign up to our TV bulletin offering the best TV and film tips, direct to your inbox every Friday. The newsletter covers the TV Editor's pick of box sets to stream, along with tips on the best programmes and films around. To start receiving it, digital subscribers can go to [thetimes.co.uk/bulletins](http://thetimes.co.uk/bulletins) and tick the box next to "Television".

**BBC1**

**6.00am** Breakfast 9.15 Morning Live  
**10.00** Dom Does America (r) **10.45**  
 Claimed and Shamed (r) **11.15** Homes Under the Hammer (r) **12.15pm**  
 Bargain Hunt **1.00** BBC News at One; Weather **1.30** BBC Regional News; Weather **1.45** Doctors. Jimmi tries to convince Bear to join his new venture **2.15** Money for Nothing. Jacqui Joseph is in High Wycombe exploring the recycling centre **3.00** Escape to the Country. Ginny Buckley is joined by her mother in helping a family find a Yorkshire home (r) **3.45** The Bidding Room. Items of interest include a collection of 1940s costume drawings (r) **4.30** Antiques Road Trip. Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott plunder the shops of Cornwall **5.15** Pointless. Quiz **6.00** BBC News at Six; Weather **6.30** BBC Regional News; Weather



Am I Being Unreasonable? (9.30pm)

**7.00** The One Show Alex Jones and Ronan Keating present the live magazine show

**7.30** We Are England Regional current affairs reports

**8.00** Question of Sport With guest panellists Josh Warrington, Bianca Walkden, Clinton Morrison and Will Buxton

**8.30** Celebrity MasterChef The remaining contenders compete in the final

**9.00** Have I Got News for You Labour MP Jess Phillips hosts the satirical quiz (3/10)

**9.30** Am I Being Unreasonable? New series. Comedy thriller, with Daisy May Cooper and Selin Hizli. See Viewing Guide (1/6)

**10.00** BBC News at Ten

**10.30** BBC Regional News

**10.40** FILM **Braveheart** (15, 1995)

Account of the life of medieval Scottish hero William Wallace. After the slaughter of his father and brother, young Wallace is taken in by his uncle, who teaches him how to use not only his brawn but his brain - which he employs to great effect years later when he resolves to drive the English out of Scotland. Oscar-winning historical epic, directed by and starring Mel Gibson. With Patrick McGoohan, Sophie Marceau and Catherine McCormack. See Film Choice

**1.25am** Weather for the Week Ahead  
**1.30** BBC News. The latest headlines

**BBC2**

**6.30am** Escape to the Country (r) **7.15** Antiques Road Trip (r) **8.00** Sign Zone: The Repair Shop (r) (SL) **9.00** BBC News **10.00** BBC News **12.15pm** Politics Live **1.00** Chase the Case. Strategic game show hosted by Dan Walker (r) **1.45** Eggheads. Quiz show hosted by Jeremy Vine (r) **2.15** FILM **The Adventures of Robin Hood** (U, 1938) Swashbuckling adventure starring Errol Flynn **3.55** The Best Dishes Ever. A selection of recipes from the BBC archives (r) **4.30** Murder, Mystery and My Family. The murder of a military veteran in 1825 (r) **5.15** Flog It! From Reading. Berkshire (r) **6.00** Richard Osman's House of Games. With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell **6.30** Unbeatable. General knowledge quiz with Jason Manford



Fishermen Bob and Paul (9pm)

**7.00** Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs A forgotten First World War prison camp (3/6) (r)

**7.30** Beechgrove Carole Baxter visits an expert grower of chillies (r)

**8.00** Gardeners' World Monty Don demonstrates how to prune summer fruiting raspberries, divides perennials and plants daffodils and hyacinths in containers

**9.00** Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing At Crogen Estate, Wales. See Viewing Guide (2/6)

**9.30** Martin Compston's Scottish Fling Visiting the Western Isles. See Viewing Guide (2/6)

**10.00** Mock the Week New series. The start of the final season (1/7)

**10.30** Newsnight With Faisal Islam

**11.05** MOTDx Football discussion (r)

**11.35** Stewart Lee: Tornado Stand-up performance filmed at York Theatre Royal (r)

**12.35am** Sign Zone: Panorama. Investigating the smugglers who get people into Britain (r) (SL) **1.05** Days That Shocked the BBC With David Dimbleby. The Hutton Inquiry and the Jimmy Savile affair (r) (SL) **2.05-2.35** Weatherman Walking (r) (SL)

**ITV**

**6.00am** Good Morning Britain **9.00** Lorraine **10.00** This Morning **12.30pm** Loose Women **1.30** ITV News; Weather **2.00** Dickinson's Real Deal. David Dickinson is joined in Cosford by dealers Mark Stevens, Tracy Thackray-Howitt, Laurie Scully and Simon Schneider **3.00** Tenable. A team of five family members answer questions about top 10 lists, then try to score a perfect 10 in the final round. Warwick Davis presents **4.00** Tipping Point. Ben Shephard hosts the arcade-themed quiz in which contestants drop tokens down a choice of four chutes in the hope of winning a £10,000 jackpot **5.00** The Chase. Another batch of contestants take part **6.00** Regional News; Weather **6.30** ITV News; Weather



Toyah is in the dock (8pm)

**7.30** Emmerdale Liam returns home with Leyla but things are tense between the two of them

**8.00** Coronation Street Gary is unhappy as Sharon visits Kelly to celebrate her engagement, and begs her not to ruin Kelly's life by revealing he killed her dad

**9.00** Professor T New series. A student is left badly burnt and in a coma after a house fire and the detectives investigating call in Professor T. Crime drama starring Ben Miller. See Viewing Guide (1/6)

**10.00** ITV News at Ten; followed by Weather

**10.30** Regional News; followed by Regional Weather

**10.45** Bradley & Barney Walsh: Breaking Dad The actor and his son head to Hungary (2/6) (r)

**11.10** The NFL Show Laura Woods is joined by Jason Bell and Osi Umenyi to present highlights of the opening match of week two between Kansas City Chiefs and Los Angeles Chargers

**12.05am** Teleshopping **3.00** Dickinson's Real Deal. David Dickinson is joined in Cosford by dealers Mark Stevens, Tracy Thackray-Howitt, Laurie Scully and Simon Schneider (r) (SL) **3.50** Unwind with ITV **5.05** Katie Piper's Breakfast Show (r) (SL)

**Channel 4**

**6.10am** Countdown (r) **6.50** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.15** 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **8.05** Everybody Loves Raymond (r) **9.00** Frasier (r) **9.30** Frasier (r) **10.00** Frasier (r) **10.30** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (r) **11.25** Channel 4 News Summary **11.30** The Great House Giveaway (r) **12.30pm** Steph's Packed Lunch **2.10** Countdown **3.00** A Place in the Sun. Engaged couple Ray and Ali seek their dream holiday home in northern Tuscany (r) **4.00** Château DIY. Nick aims to finish opening up the entrance hall of his derelict château **5.00** Moneybags. Quiz, hosted by Craig Charles **6.00** The Simpsons (r) **6.30** Hollyoaks. All eyes are on James as he makes a big confession (r)



Jo Brand hosts An Extra Slice (8pm)

**7.00** Channel 4 News Including sport and weather

**8.00** The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice New series. Host Jo Brand is joined by celebrity fans Harry Hill, Melvin Odom and Roisin Conaty to discuss the new batch of bakers and to tuck into the events of Cake Week (1/10)

**9.00** Gogglebox The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week, with cameras capturing their instant reactions

**10.00** The Last Leg Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by guests David Harewood and Judi Love for a comic review of the significant moments of the past week

**11.05** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown Jimmy Carr hosts, as Sean Lock and Harry Hill take on Jon Richardson and Rosie Jones. Mr Swallow, aka Nick Mohammed, is in Dictionary Corner (r)

**12.10am** One Night in Legoland (r) **1.05** FILM Upgrade (15, 2018) Sci-fi thriller starring Logan Marshall-Green and Melanie Vallejo **2.45** Come Dine with Me (r) **5.05** Perfect House, Secret Location (r) (SL) **5.20** Come Dine with Me (r) **5.55** Find It, Fix It, Flog It (r)

**Channel 5**

**6.00am** Milkshake! **9.15** Jeremy Vine **12.45pm** Holiday Homes in the Sun. Amanda Lamb, JB Gill and Sam Pinkham are in Salerno, Italy **1.40** 5 News at Lunchtime **1.45** Home and Away. Ziggy helps the band find a van, while Eden and Mackenzie become friends. John's dreams for quiet neighbours are dashed, and Alf catches Marilyn in a lie to Roo **2.15** FILM Killer at the School Gates (12, TVM, 2022) A single mother joins the parent-teacher association at her daughter's new school finds herself at odds with a power-hungry member. Thriller starring Brianna Cohen **4.00** Bargain Loving Brits by the Sea. Britons living the high life on a low budget in popular holiday resorts (r) **5.00** 5 News at 5 **6.00** Cash in the Attic **6.55** 5 News Update



Clint Eastwood as Dirty Harry (10pm)

**7.00** Susan Calman's Grand Day Out in the Welsh Mountains The comedian climbs the dramatic and spectacular peaks of north Wales, and stops off at the must-see tourist spot of the Tu Hwnt Ir Bont Tearoom (3/7) (r) **7.55** 5 News Update

**8.00** The Cotswolds & Beyond with Pam Ayres Pam heads to Highgrove Gardens, run by The Prince's Foundation (3/6); followed by 5 News Update

**9.00** Digging for Treasure: Tonight Dan Walker, Michaela Strachan and Raksha Dave set up camp in the shadow of Southwark Cathedral in London, focusing on mudlarking on the banks of the Thames (4/4)

**10.00** FILM Sudden Impact (18, 1983) Maverick detective "Dirty" Harry Callahan is sent to investigate a killing in a small town when his superiors tire of his no-holds barred approach to law enforcement. The case takes an unexpected turn with the discovery that the killer is a woman seeking revenge on the men who raped her and her sister 10 years previously. Crime thriller sequel, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. With Sondra Locke, Pat Hingle and Bradford Dillman

**12.15am** Police Interceptors (r) **1.10** The LeoVegas Live Casino Show **3.10** Paxman on the Queen's Children (r) **4.00** Paxman on the Queen's Children (r) **4.45** Amazing Cakes & Bakes (r) **5.25** Entertainment News on **5.50** Milkshake!

**Friday 16**

# Friday 16 | Primetime digital guide

FV Freeview FS Freesat

## TalkTV

FV 237, FS 217, SKY 526, VIRGIN 627

**6.00am James Max** An insight into the day's top stories  
**6.30 Jeremy Kyle** Political panel debates and interviews  
**10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham** A look at the morning newspapers  
**1.00pm Ian Collins** Hard-hitting monologues and debates  
**4.00 Vanessa Feltz**  
**7.00 The News Desk with Tom Newton Dunn** The host tackles the biggest stories of the day with news, expert analysis and debate  
**8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of** The host presents his verdict on the week's global events with an hour of debate and interviews  
**9.00 The Talk** Sharon Osbourne and a panel of famous faces debate the hot topics everybody's talking about  
**10.00 The James Whale Show**  
**11.00-12.00am Piers Morgan Uncensored**

## BBC3

FV 23, FS 179, SKY 117, VIRGIN 107

**7.00pm Top Gear Putting** off-roaders to the test in the Scottish Highlands (3/4)  
**8.00 Squad Dates** Dating show in which two sets of single friends get together for a weekend of group dates, to see if love is on the cards  
**9.00 FILM Avicii: True Stories (15, 2017)** Documentary telling the story of the Swedish DJ, who died in 2018, featuring extensive personal and family archive and behind-the-scenes footage to paint a picture of his life  
**10.35 Some Girls** Greenshoots Academy is shortlisted to feature in a television documentary series, while Viva attempts to mend the relationship between Amber and her sister (4/6)  
**11.05 Some Girls** Holli's romantic life becomes more complicated (5/6)  
**11.35-12.05am Some Girls (6/6)**

## BBC4

FV 9/24, FS 173, SKY 116, VIRGIN 108

**7.00pm Ultimate Cover Versions at the BBC** Sixty years of cover performances from the Corporation's archive  
**8.00 Top of the Pops With** performances by Dannii Minogue and 4 Non Blondes  
**8.30 Top of the Pops With** Shara Nelson, Roxette and Urban Cookie Collective  
**9.00 Carole King: In Concert** A 1971 performance  
**9.30 Carole King: Natural Woman** Profile of the singer-songwriter, charting her upbringing in Brooklyn and rise to become one of the most successful musicians of her generation, credited with a string of pop hits  
**10.25 Later: with Jools Holland** Compilation of performances  
**11.25-12.25am The Spice Girls at the BBC** A selection of performances by the group

## More 4

FV 18, FS 124, SKY 136, VIRGIN 147

**6.55pm Escape to the Château** Before winter arrives, Dick Strawbridge and Angel Adoree take on their next project, transforming a 35-foot long, eight-ton river boat into luxury guest accommodation (7/8)  
**8.00 Wondrous Wales** A visit to the slopes of the Brecon Beacons, where hill farmer Garry Williams and his family's flock needs to be brought down from the mountains for lambing (2/5)  
**9.00 Agatha Christie's Hjerson** The search for the suspect intensifies when a shooting occurs. With Oscar at the hospital and Harriet back in Hjerson's life, the case becomes personal. In Swedish (4/8)  
**10.00 24 Hours in A&E** A woman is brought in with suspected spinal injuries  
**11.05-12.05am 24 Hours in A&E**

## Sky Atlantic

SKY 108

**6.50pm The Sopranos** Carmela worries about the family's financial position, while Adriana confides in new friend Danielle (1/13) (R)  
**7.55 Game of Thrones** Theon Greyjoy stirs his men into action. Daenerys enters the mysterious House of the Undying, and Jon proves his worth to Qhorin Halfhand (10/10) (R)  
**9.00 Munich Games** The Israeli team arrive, escalating the situation, and the investigation yields a first lead on who could be behind the leak of sensitive information (2/6) (R)  
**10.00 House of the Dragon** Game of Thrones prequel starring Paddy Considine (4/10) (R)  
**11.05-12.15am We Own This City** Maurice Ward recounts how Jenkins remained unscathed despite a series of illegal incidents (4/6) (R)



## War of the Worlds

Tom Cruise stars as a divorced dad in the 2005 remake of the sci-fi thriller  
**E4, 9pm**

## Sky Documentaries

SKY 121, VIRGIN 278

**6.50pm Allen v. Farrow** As Farrow and Allen become a Hollywood power couple, their close-knit family is torn apart by a startling revelation about Woody's relationship with Mia's daughter Soon-Yi (2/4) (R)  
**8.00 The Vietnam War** Hanoi lays plans for a massive surprise offensive (5/10) (R)  
**9.00 Richard Pryor: Omit the Logic** A profile of the comedian, chronicling his life from a troubled youth to his career as one of the most respected yet controversial comic actors of the 20th century (R)  
**10.40-12.40am FILM Lennox: The Untold Story (15, 2020)** The story of Lennox Lewis, who rose from humble beginnings in London's West Ham to become regarded as one of the greatest boxers

## ITV2

FV 6, FS 113, SKY 118, VIRGIN 115

**7.00pm Secret Crush** Moses lays his heart on the line to Megan  
**8.00 Bob's Burgers** Tina enrols in a programme that sends a robot version of herself to school  
**8.30 Bob's Burgers**  
**9.00 FILM 2 Fast 2 Furious (12, 2003)** A disgraced cop is given a chance to redeem himself by going undercover to bring a drug trafficker to justice. Thriller sequel with Paul Walker and Eva Mendes  
**11.10 Family Guy**  
**11.40-12.10am Family Guy**

## ITV3

FV 10, FS 115, SKY 119, VIRGIN 117

**7.00pm Heartbeat** Merton finds himself under pressure  
**8.00 McDonald & Dodds** Social media influencer Rose Boleyn checks into an exclusive clinic for a nose job, but the procedure goes horribly wrong and she dies on the operating table (3/4)  
**10.00 Maigret** After a suspected jewel thief is found murdered, the detective investigates the residents of the dead man's apartment block (1/6)  
**11.45-2.05am Inspector Morse**

## ITV4

FV 26, FS 117, SKY 120, VIRGIN 118

**6.00pm World Series of Darts Finals** Jacqui Oatley presents live coverage of day one from AFAS Live in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, featuring eight first-round matches, played over the best of 11 legs. Jonny Clayton was crowned champion here last year, and he is one of the eight seeded players who will take on tonight's winners  
**10.00-12.05am All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite** Hard-hitting action from the world of All Elite Wrestling  
**11.15-12.20am Naked Attraction**

## E4

FV 13, FS 122, SKY 135, VIRGIN 106

**7.00pm Hollyoaks** Sid visits his former drug-dealing boss in prison  
**7.30 The Big Bang Theory** Bernadette shows an interest in Leonard's physics experiment  
**8.00 Below Deck: Mediterranean** A divorced father tries to protect his two children as alien war machines start to wipe out the human race. Steven Spielberg's sci-fi thriller with Tom Cruise and Dakota Fanning  
**11.15-12.20am Naked Attraction**

## Dave

FV 19, FS 157, SKY 111

**7.00pm Richard Osman's House of Games** Nish Kumar, Clara Amfo, Anneka Rice and Al Murray compete in Double Points Friday  
**7.40 Room 101** Sue Perkins, Bruno Tonioli and Steve Jones discuss their pet hates  
**8.20 Would I Lie to You?**  
**9.00 QI XL** With Cariad Lloyd, Dermot O'Leary and Phillip Jupitus  
**10.00 QI**  
**10.40 Would I Lie to You?**  
**11.20 Would I Lie to You?**  
**12.00-12.40am Mock the Week**

## Drama

FV 20, FS 158, SKY 143, VIRGIN 130

**6.40pm 'Allo 'Allo!**  
**7.20 Last of the Summer Wine** Wesley unveils his latest creation  
**8.00 Father Brown** The sleuthing priest must race to save Buntby from the hangman's noose  
**9.00 Detectorists** First episode of the comedy starring Mackenzie Crook and Toby Jones  
**9.40 Detectorists** A mole leaks information to a rival metal-detector club  
**10.20 New Tricks**  
**11.40-1.00am Spooks**

## Yesterday

FV 27, FS 159, SKY 155, VIRGIN 129

**7.00pm Abandoned Engineering** Ruined engineering projects that have been put to alternative use  
**8.00 Hornby: A Model World** Designer Carl attempts to recreate a First World War biplane (2/10)  
**9.00 Steam Train Britain** Chef Alex and manager Michelle prepare a dinner for 130 people on the East Lancashire railway (4/10)  
**10.00 Bangers and Cash** (2/10)  
**11.00 Abandoned Engineering**  
**12.00-1.00am The Architecture of Railways Built**

## PBS America

FV 84, FS 155, SKY 174, VIRGIN 273

**6.20pm Riveted: The History of Jeans** The story of the garment  
**7.30 The Silk Road** Sam Willis continues his journey in Iran (3/3)  
**8.50 The Last Voices of World War One** Archive recollections from nurses and the injured (3/6)  
**9.50 Nazi Hunters** How German housewife Beate Klarsfeld helped capture Klaus Barbie (3/8)  
**10.45 The Silk Road** Sam Willis continues his journey in Iran (3/3)  
**12.00-1.10am Riveted: The History of Jeans** The story of the garment

## Smithsonian

FV 57, FS 175, SKY 171, VIRGIN 276

**7.00pm Aerial Britain** The homes and inspirations of notable individuals  
**8.00 Tomb Hunters** Uncovering secrets hidden since the Age of the Pyramids  
**9.00 Tomb Hunters** Archaeologists discover a burial shaft filled with gilded coffins  
**10.00 Siege of Masada** Examining the events surrounding the deaths of 960 Jewish rebels  
**11.00 Tomb Hunters**  
**12.00-1.00am Tomb Hunters**

## Sky Arts

FV 11, FS 147, SKY 130, VIRGIN 165

**7.00pm Classic Albums** Phil Collins gives an insight into the making of his first solo album *Face Value*  
**8.00 Discovering: The Beach Boys**  
**8.30 Brian Wilson Plays Balboa Session** The singer-songwriter performs at the Swiss festival in 2016, playing Beach Boys classics including *I Get Around*  
**10.30 Berlin Live: Blondie** A 2011 performance by the band  
**11.50-12.20am The Ronnie Wood Show** With Toots and the Maytals frontman Toots Hibbert (9/10)

## Sky History

SKY 123, VIRGIN 270

**7.00pm Forged in Fire** Efforts to replicate a deadly Indian weapon  
**8.00 Storage Wars**  
**8.30 Storage Wars**  
**9.00 The American Presidency with Bill Clinton** How US presidents have exerted power over the economy (3/6)  
**10.00 Shipwrecks: When History Resurfaces** Empress of Ireland  
**11.00 The UnXplained with William Shatner**  
**12.00-1.00am Britain's Greatest Obsessions** with Harry Hill (1/6)

## Sky Max

SKY 113, VIRGIN 122

**7.00pm Stargate SG-1**  
**8.00 Freddie Fries Again** Andrew Flintoff and Rob Penn's second tour concludes in Ireland (6/6)  
**9.00 Rob & Romesh vs NBA Basketball** Rob Beckett and Romesh Ranganathan learn about the sport (2/4)  
**10.00 A League of Their Own** With Kyle Walker, Russell Howard, Maisie Adam and David Walliams  
**11.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks**  
**11.45-12.30am The Russell Howard Hour** Topical comedy

## Discovery

SKY 125, VIRGIN 250

**7.00pm Junkyard Empire**  
**8.00 Gold Rush**  
**9.00 Expedition Unknown**  
**10.00 UFO Witness** An alleged underwater alien base may be the site of gruesome experiments  
**11.00 Yukon Men**  
**12.00-1.00am Mysteries of the Deep** With Jeremy Wade

## Nat Geographic

SKY 129, VIRGIN 266, BT 351

**7.00pm Air Crash Investigation**  
**8.00 9/11: One Day in America** Personal stories (2/6)  
**9.00 9/11: One Day in America** The hijack of flight 93 (3/6)  
**10.00 New Air Force One: Flying Fortress** Documentary  
**11.00 Air Crash Investigation**  
**12.00-1.00am Car SOS (1/11)**

## Sky Comedy

SKY 114, VIRGIN 135, BT 346

**7.00pm Everybody Hates Chris**  
**7.30 The Office (US)**  
**9.00 Girls (5/10)**  
**9.30 Girls (6/10)**  
**10.00 Late Late Show** Best of the talk show  
**11.00 The Rehearsal** (4/6)  
**11.35-12.30am The Late Late Show** with James Corden

## Comedy Central

SKY 112, VIRGIN 181, BT 344

**7.00pm Friends**  
**7.30 Friends**  
**8.00 Friends**  
**8.30 Friends**  
**9.00 FILM American Pie: Reunion** (15, 2012) Comedy sequel starring Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan  
**11.10 Ridiculousness**  
**11.40-12.05am Ridiculousness**

## Gold

SKY 110, VIRGIN 124

**6.40pm Dad's Army**  
**7.20 Dad's Army**  
**8.00 Only Fools and Horses**  
**8.40 Only Fools and Horses**  
**9.20 Bottom**  
**10.00 Bottom**  
**10.35 Only Fools and Horses**  
**11.55-1.05am All Round to Mrs Brown's** With Noel Edmonds



Che Adams should feature for Southampton against Aston Villa (Sky Main Event, 7pm)

## Sky Cricket

SKY 404, VIRGIN 514

**10.45am Women's International T20** Cricket England v India. A replay of the first match of the series at Chester-le-Street  
**2.30pm Women's International T20** Cricket England v India. A replay of the second match of the series, which came from The Incora County Ground in Derby  
**6.30 Women's International T20** Cricket England v India. A replay of the third match of the series, which came from Bristol  
**10.30-12.00m't Best of KP**

## BT Sport 1

SKY 413, VIRGIN 527, BT 430

**7.00pm Live Gallagher Premiership Rugby Union: Northampton Saints v London Irish** (Kick-off 7.45). Coverage of the top-flight match from Franklin's Gardens  
**10.00 Uefa Champions League Magazine**  
**10.30 UFC** A look ahead to Cory Sandhagen v Song Yadong  
**11.00-12.00m't WWE NXT Highlights** Wrestling action  
**1.00-3.00am Live WWE Friday Night SmackDown**

## BT Sport 2

SKY 414, VIRGIN 528, BT 431

**8.00am-3.00pm Live MotoGP** Coverage of the opening day of the Aragon Grand Prix at MotorLand Aragon in Alcaniz, Spain, where the 15th round of the season takes place  
**7.00pm BT Sport Fight Night Live** Denzel Bentley v Marcus Morrison. Coverage of the British Middleweight title bout at York Hall in Bethnal Green  
**12.00am Live MLB** Coverage of a baseball match  
**3.30-4.00 UFC Fight Camp**

# Film guide

## Film4

FV 14 FS 300 SKY 313 VIRGIN 428

**11.00am The Court-Martial of Billy Mitchell (U, 1955)**

Courtroom drama starring Gary Cooper and Rod Steiger

**1.05pm Esther Waters (PG, 1948)**

Period drama starring Dirk Bogarde

**3.15 Gunpoint (PG, 1966)**

Western starring Audie Murphy and Joan Stanley

**5.00 Santa Fe Passage (U, 1955)**

Western adventure starring John Payne

**6.50 Junior (PG, 1994)**

Comedy starring Arnold Schwarzenegger

**9.00 Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (12, 2008)**

Action adventure sequel starring Harrison Ford

**11.20-1.55am Last Action Hero (PG, 1993)**

Comedy adventure with Arnold Schwarzenegger

**Talking Pictures TV**

FV 82 FS 306 SKY 328 VIRGIN 445

**6.00am A Farewell to Arms (PG, 1932)**

Romantic First World War drama starring Gary Cooper and Helen Hayes

**7.45 The Young Lovers (U, 1954)**

Cold War romance starring Odile Versois

**9.45 Beware of Pity (PG, 1946)**

Drama starring Lilli Palmer and Cedric Hardwicke

**11.50 Doctor in Love (PG, 1960)**

Medical comedy starring Leslie Phillips and Michael Craig

**1.50pm The Anniversary (PG, 1968)**

Black comedy starring Bette Davis

**3.40 The New Light**

Orchestras of Radio in 1939: Glimpses

**3.55 Wanted for Murder (PG, 1946)**

Crime drama starring Eric Portman

**6.00 The Day the Earth Caught Fire (PG, 1961)**

Sci-fi thriller starring Edward Judd

**8.00 The Outer Limits**

9.00 Cellar Club with Caroline Munro

**9.05 Night of the Living Dead (15, 1968)**

Horror with Judith O'Dea. See Film Choice

**11.00 Cellar Club with Caroline Munro**

11.05-1.15am Happy Birthday To Me (15, 1981) Horror

starring Melissa Sue Anderson

**GREAT! Movies**

FV 34 FS 302 SKY 321 VIRGIN 425

**9.00am Killer in Red (PG, 2018)**

Thriller with Tammin Sursok and Allison Paige

**10.50 GREAT! Movie News**

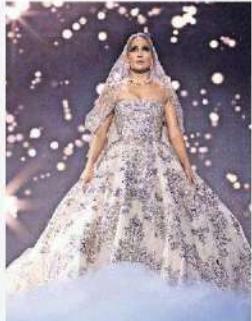
11.00 Watching Over You (PG, 2018) Thriller starring Andrea Bogart and Trevor St John

**12.50pm GREAT! Movie News**

1.00 Signed, Sealed, Delivered

**1.55 GREAT! Movie News**

2.01 Signed, Sealed, Delivered

**2.50 GREAT! Movie News**


Jennifer Lopez in Marry Me (Sky Cinema Premiere, 8pm)

**3.00 Reluctant Witness (PG, 2015)**

Thriller starring Mia Kirshner and Paul McGillion

**4.45 Gambit (U, 1966)**

Crime comedy starring Michael Caine and Shirley MacLaine

**6.55 Last Vegas (12, 2013)**

Comedy starring Michael Douglas and Robert De Niro

**9.00-12.10am American Gangster (18, 2007)**

Fact-based crime drama starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe

**TCM Movies**

SKY 315 VIRGIN 415

**6.00am Hollywood's Best**
**Film Directors**

6.35 Off Set

**7.15 Cheyenne**
**9.25 The Spy With My Face (PG, 1966)**

Man from UNCLE adventure starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum

**11.15 Cheyenne**
**1.30pm The Spy in the Green Hat (U, 1966)**

Espionage adventure starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum

**3.25 King of the Wild Stallions (U, 1959)**

Western drama starring Diane Brewster

**5.05 Murder at the Gallop (U, 1963)**

Miss Marple mystery starring Margaret Rutherford

**6.50 The Last Hunt (PG, 1956)**

Western starring Robert Taylor and Stewart Granger

**9.00 The Man from UNCLE (12, 2015)**

Spy adventure starring Henry Cavill and Armie Hammer

**11.25-1.45am Get Carter (18, 1971)**

Thriller starring Michael Caine and Ian Hendry

**Sky Cinema Premiere**

SKY 301 VIRGIN 401

**1.55pm American Carnage (15, 2022)**

Horror comedy starring Jenna Ortega

**3.55 Sing 2 (U, 2021)**

Animated musical sequel with the voice of Matthew McConaughey

**6.00 Last Looks (15, 2021)**

Thriller starring Charlie Hunnam and Mel Gibson

**8.00 Marry Me (12, 2022)**

Comedy starring Jennifer Lopez and Owen Wilson

**10.00-12.10am Scream (18, 2022)**

Horror sequel starring Neve Campbell

# Radio guide

**Times Radio**

Digital only

**5.00am Anna Cunningham with Early Breakfast 6.00**

Chloe Tilley and Calum Macdonald with Times Radio Breakfast

**10.00 Matt Chorley**

1.00pm Ruth Davidson 4.00

**Cathy Newman at Drive 7.00**

Michael Portillo 10.00 Kait Borsay 1.00am Stories of Our Times

**1.30 Red Box 2.00**

Highlights from Times Radio

**Radio 2**

FM: 88.90.2 MHz

**6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00**

Jeremy Vine 2.00pm Steve Wright 5.00 Sara Cox 7.00

**Michelle Visage 9.00 The Good Groove 11.00 The Rock Show**
**12.00 Romesh Ranganathan: For the Love of Hip-Hop**
**1.00am My Life in a Mixtape (r)**
**2.00 Radio 2 Unwinds (r) 3.00**
**TBA 4.00 Sophie Ellis-Bextor**
**Radio 3**

FM: 90.2-92.4 MHz

**6.30am Breakfast**
**9.00 Essential Classics**
**12.00 Composer of the Week: Bruckner**

The effect of Bruckner's health on his music

**1.00pm Radio 3 Luncheon Concert**
Beethoven (Welsh folksongs for tenor and piano trio; *The Damsels of Cardigan*; When mortals all to rest retire; The parting kiss; Waken Lords and Ladies gay; and Violin

Sonata No 4 in A minor, Op 23); and Dvořák (String Quartet, Op 96 "American")

**2.00 Afternoon Concert**
Stravinsky (Concerto in D for strings "Basel"); Isabel Mundry (Traces des moments, for string trio, clarinet and accordion); Jennifer Higdon (Piano Trio – 1st movt: *Pale Yellow*); Haydn (Symphony No.91 in B flat major, H.91); Mozart (Piano Concerto No.23 in A major, K.488); and Wagner (*Tristan und Isolde* – *Prelude und Liebestod*)
**4.30 The Listening Service (r)**
**5.00 In Tune**
**7.00 In Tune Mixtape**
**7.30 Radio 3 in Concert At Edinburgh's Usher Hall, Les Siècles and Francois-Xavier Roth perform Boulanger (*Faust et Hélène*); and Stravinsky (*The Rite of Spring* – original 1913 score)**
**10.00 The Verb**
**10.45 The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language**

Christopher Laing gives a personal account of how he started SignStrokes

**11.00 Late Junction**

Verity Sharp shares an exclusive mixtape from the Lou Reed Archive. See Choice

**1.00am Piano Flow with Lianne La Havas (r)**
**2.00 Happy Harmonies (r)**
**3.00 Through the Night**
**Radio 5 Live**

MW: 693, 909

**5.00am The Big Green Money Show 5.30 Wake Up to Money**

# Friday 16

would have turned 80. With unheard demos and recordings, and Reed talking about and performing his poetry, this is a treasure trove for any muso worth their salt. **Ben Dowell**
**6.00 5 Live Breakfast 9.00**

Nicky Campbell 11.00 Chiles on Friday 1.00pm Kammy &amp; Ben's Proper Football Podcast

**1.30 The Footballers' Football Podcast 2.00 Elis James and John Robins 4.00 5 Live Drive**
**7.00 5 Live Sport: The Friday Football Social 9.00 Rugby League. Second half**

commentary from the Super League 10.00 Stephen Nolan 1.00am Hayley Hassall

**talkSPORT**

MW: 1053, 1089 kHz

**5.00am Early Breakfast 6.00**

Breakfast with Alan Brazil, Ray Parlour and Trevor Sinclair

**10.00 Jim White and Simon Jordan 1.00pm Hawksbee and Jacobs 4.00 Drive with Andy Goldstein and Darren Bent 7.00 GameDay**
**Countdown 10.00 Sports Bar 1.00am Extra Time**
**TalkRadio**

Digital only

**5.00am James Max 6.30**

Jeremy Kyle 10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham 1.00pm Ian Collins

**4.00 Vanessa Feltz 7.00**

The News Desk 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of

**9.00 The Talk 10.00 The James Whale Show 11.00**

Piers Morgan Uncensored Best Of 12.00 The James Whale Show 1.00am Darryl Morris 4.00 The Talk

**Radio 4 Extra**

Digital only

**8.00am It Sticks Out Half a Mile 8.30 Thirty Minutes Worth 9.00 Say the Word**
**9.30 The Circle 10.00**

Devonia 10.45 Short Works

**11.00 Podcast Radio Hour**
**12.00 It Sticks Out Half a Mile**
**12.30pm Thirty Minutes Worth 1.00 Death May Surprise Us 1.30 Agatha Raisin 2.00 Adventures of a Young Naturalist 2.15 Eleanor Rising 2.30 The Invisible College 3.00 Devonia 3.45 Short Works 4.00 Say the Word 4.30 The Circle**
**5.00am More Music Breakfast 9.00 Alexander Armstrong 12.00 Anne-Marie Minhall 4.00pm John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics. Presented by Zeb Soanes 10.00 Smooth Classics 1.00am Katie Breathwick 4.00 Sam Pitts**
**5.00 Miracles R Us 5.30 Ed Reardon's Week 6.00 The Slide 6.30 Sounds Natural**
**7.00 It Sticks Out Half a Mile 7.30 Thirty Minutes Worth**
**8.00 Death May Surprise Us 8.30 Agatha Raisin 9.00**
**Podcast Radio Hour 10.00 Comedy Club: Ed Reardon's Week 10.30 Mitch Benn's Crimes Against Music 11.00 What the Future? 11.30 James Acaster's Perfect Sounds**
**BBC World Service**

Digital only

**9.00am News 9.06 Tech Tent**
**9.30 Science in Action 10.00**
**News 10.06 The Real Story**
**11.00 The Newsroom 11.30**
**World Football 12.00 News**
**12.06pm The Fifth Floor**
**12.50 Witness History 1.00**
**The Newsroom 1.30 Science in Action 2.00 Newshour**
**3.00 News 3.06 HARDtalk**
**3.30 Business 4.00 BBC OS**
**6.00 News 6.06 The Fifth Floor 6.50 Witness History**
**7.00 The Newsroom 7.30**
**Sport Today 8.00 News 8.06**

Tech Tent 8.30 CrowdScience

**9.00 Newshour 10.00 News**
**10.06 HARDtalk 10.30 World Football 11.00 The Newsroom**
**11.20 Sports News 11.30**
**Business 12.00 News**
**12.06am The Real Story**
**1.00 News 1.06 Business**
**Matters 2.00 The Newsroom**
**2.30 Stumped 3.00 News**
**3.06 The Fifth Floor 3.50**
**Witness History 4.00**
**News 4.06 The Real Story**
**6 Music**

Digital only

**7.30am Lauren Laverne**
**10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs**
**1.00pm Craig Charles 4.00**

Steve Lamacq 7.00 The People's Party with

**Afrodeutsche 9.00 Tom Ravenscroft 11.00 The Ravers Hour 12.00 6 Music's Indie Forever 1.00am**
**6 Music's Emo Forever**
**Virgin Radio**

Digital only

**6.30am The Chris Evans Breakfast Show with Sky**
**10.00 Eddy Temple-Morris**
**1.00pm Tim Cocker 4.00**

Jayne Middlemiss 7.00 Virgin

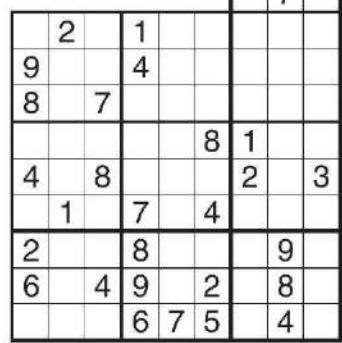
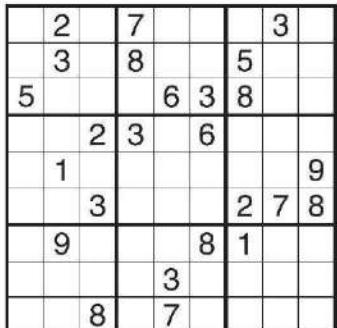
**Radio's Anthems: Ben Jones**
**10.00 Virgin Radio's Anthems: Stu Elmore**
**1.00am Emma Nolan**
**Classic FM**

FM: 100-102 MHz

**6.00am More Music Breakfast 9.00 Alexander Armstrong 12.00 Anne-Marie Minhall 4.00pm John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics. Presented by Zeb Soanes 10.00 Smooth Classics**
**1.00am Katie Breathwick 4.00 Sam Pitts**

# MindGames

## Samurai Sudoku No 836 — Medium



Solution to last week's Samurai Sudoku

6	2	9	1	3	5	7	8	4
7	3	8	9	4	6	2	1	5
5	4	1	8	7	2	9	6	3
2	7	3	6	5	1	8	4	9
4	9	6	7	2	8	3	5	1
1	8	5	3	9	4	6	7	2
2	1	7	4	8	6	3	2	5
6	4	9	2	3	7	8	1	5
9	1	2	5	8	7	4	3	6

8	4	3	9	1	6	2	5	7
7	5	9	2	8	4	6	1	3
6	1	2	7	5	3	4	8	9

5	8	4	2	3	7	9	6	1
9	3	7	6	1	5	4	8	2
6	2	1	9	4	8	3	7	5

Our five-grid Sudoku will test your powers of logic and deduction — against the clock.

Fill each grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Where the puzzles overlap, the rows and columns do not go beyond their usual length. The interlocking nature of the grid gives you more clues — and more complexity.

Remember — don't try to solve each Sudoku grid in turn; the puzzle has to be tackled as a whole.

**Stuck?** Call 0901 293 6263 to receive four clues for today's Samurai Sudoku. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm)

## Tredoku

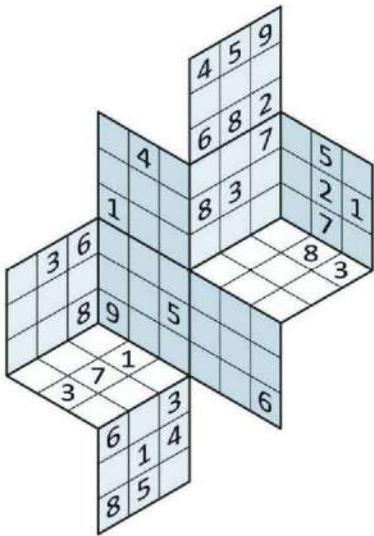
### No 1750 — Hard

Tredoku is similar to Sudoku: the digits 1 to 9 must appear once only in each 3x3 box and in each line of nine consecutive cells. However, since the puzzle is three-dimensional, the lines may be straight or bent around angles. Follow each line's direction in search of clues.

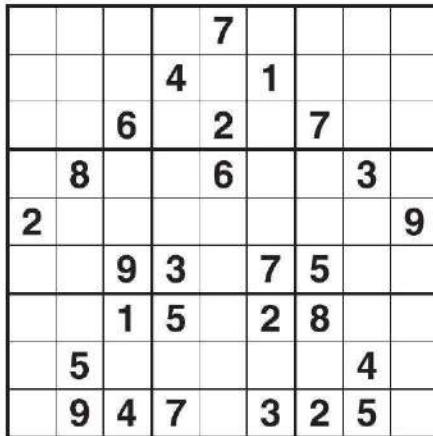
Sudoku/Killer © Puzzler Media  
KenKen® Puzzles are used with permission of Gakken Co Ltd and Nextoy, LLC

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## Sudoku No 13,480 — Fiendish

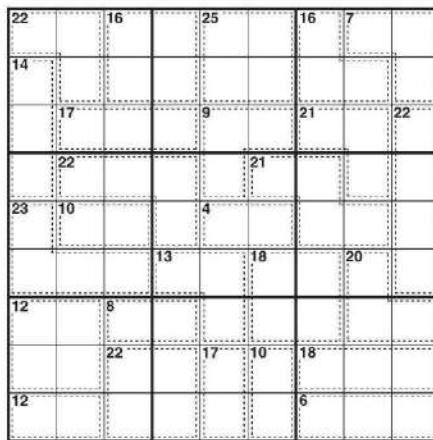


**How to solve Sudoku.** Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

### Stuck on KenKen, Killer or Sudoku?

Call 0901 293 6263 before midnight to receive four clues for any of today's puzzles. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).

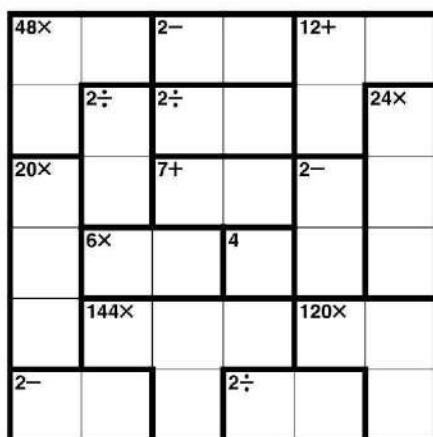
## Killer No 8489 — Deadly



Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Each set of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the target number in its top-left corner. Within each set of cells joined by dotted lines, a digit cannot be repeated.

For solutions to KenKen, Sudoku & Killer see Times2 on Monday

## KenKen No 5682 — Medium

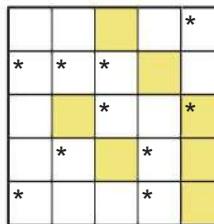


All the digits 1 to 6 must appear in every row and column. In each thick-line "block", the target number in the top left-hand corner is calculated from the digits in all the cells in the block, using the operation indicated by the symbol.

## Square Routes®

### No 182 — Medium

Ian Simpson & Richard Heald



BOOKREST  
DOORKNOCK  
IROKO  
KORORAS  
KOORI  
PINKROOTS  
WORKOUTS

Put one letter in each cell so that each word on the right can be spelt out by moving from cell to cell without using diagonal moves. You can use a cell more than once in a word (including backtracking into a cell you've just used), but double letters (eg, the LL in ALL) must use two adjacent cells. The words start in the coloured cells and the vowels are shown by asterisks.

*Solution on Monday*

## Answers

Friday's solutions

KenKen No 5681

Sudoku No 13,477

5	1	6	3	4	2
1	2	5	4	3	6
3	5	1	6	2	4
2	3	4	1	6	5
4	6	3	2	5	1
6	4	2	5	1	3

Sudoku No 13,478

Sudoku No 13,479

4	6	7	8	9	2	3	5	1
2	8	1	3	5	4	7	9	6
9	3	5	1	7	6	2	8	4
8	7	9	2	3	1	4	6	5
3	1	6	5	4	9	8	7	2
5	4	2	7	6	8	1	3	9
6	9	8	4	2	3	5	1	7
7	2	3	9	1	5	6	4	8
1	5	4	6	8	7	9	2	3

Killer No 8487

Killer No 8488

3	9	8	1	5	2	7	4	6
5	7	6	9	4	8	3	1	2
4	2	1	6	7	3	5	9	8
2	5	7	4	1	6	8	3	9
8	4	9	2	3	5	6	7	1
6	1	3	7	8	9	2	5	4
7	8	2	5	9	4	1	6	3
9	6	5	3	2	1	4	8	7
1	3	4	8	6	7	9	2	5

Train Tracks No 1730

Codeword No 4699

J	A	C	K	A	L	H	A	Z	D
L	O	N	G	W	N	U			
G	R	A	D	U	F	I			
R	U	N	A	U	Y				
A	T	N	A	U	Y				
T	N	A	U	Y					
N	A	U	Y						
A	U	Y							
U	Y								
Y									

The Listener 4725

Carte Blanche by Piccadilly

Most of the letter values could be deduced from constraints on the ordered sets of across and down clue numbers, with the last few needing information from the constructed grid. More details at [listenercrossword.com](http://listenercrossword.com). The winners are Ian and Richard Lyon of London W1; HM Lloyd of Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside; Howard Trickey of Westfield, New Jersey, USA.

**Solve Cryptic Quintagram every weekday online**  
**Go to [thetimes.co.uk](http://thetimes.co.uk)**

## Cryptic Quintagram®

Solve all five cryptic clues using each letter underneath once only

I Sharpen up man hampered by weight (4)

2 Large group did backstroke, perhaps, across river (5)

3 Almost pull ears off in examination (7)

4 Scent is what pines produce around section of wood (7)

5 Trouble in nightclub with male meeting match (9)

A	A	C	C	D	E	E	E
F	G	H	I	I	L	L	M
M	N	O	O	O	P	R	R
S	S	S	T	T	U	W	W

Answers below

## Word Watch

David Parfitt

### Conspicuity

- a. Agreement
- b. Similarity in colour
- c. Vision, sight

### Hoast

- a. A cow's cough
- b. A large stash of gold
- c. To singe or char

### Turnsick

- a. A variety of swede
- b. Anticlockwise
- c. Vertigo

### Limb

- a. A period of waiting
- b. An edge or border
- c. A rascal

Answers below

## Scrabble® Paul Gallen

The six-letter words are often described as the "Cinderella" of Scrabble: unloved and rather neglected, perhaps undeservedly so. They not only fall one letter short of achieving the 50-point bonus, but also create more volatility in the subsequent rack in contrast to shorter words where some control of the next rack can be retained.

These drawbacks generally render the six-letter words unpopular among Scrabble players. However, there are many groups of six-letter words that are very useful, such as the "blocker sixes". These are words that cannot be hooked with any prefix or suffix letter. The blocker sixes are very useful for defensive moves and can induce invalid moves from opponents trying to hook letters onto them.

With these considerations in mind, Lewis Mackay deployed the six-letter word FODGEL (D8d), a Scots adjective meaning buxom, in the final game of the 2022 British Matchplay Scrabble Championship (board extract above opposite). The move worked out perfectly as his opponent later played ROJIS/FODGELS\* (J4a). Mackay successfully challenged the invalid move and his opponent crucially lost his turn thus registering no

score. Can you find the more common anagram of FODGEL which would have been much less likely to be hooked by the opponent?



Here are some other blocker sixes beginning with F and their definitions to add to your vocabulary:

**FARAND** pleasant or attractive  
**FARFET** far-fetched  
**FAVOSE** honeycombed  
**FERINE** feral  
**FLOOIE** awry

Below is a position from the pre-endgame, which eventually led to Mackay winning by three points to claim the championship. Can you find Mackay's 34-point move using the following rack?

**A C G K N R U**

Collins Official Scrabble Words is the word authority used.  
Word positions use the grid reference plus (a)cross or (d)own.

**2L** double letter square (dl)   **3L** triple letter square (tl)   **2W** double word square (dw)   **3W** triple word square (dw)



### Letter values

1 point:	<b>A E I O U</b>
2 points:	<b>D G</b>
3 points:	<b>B C M P</b>
4 points:	<b>F H V W Y</b>
<b>K = 5</b>	
<b>J X = 8</b>	
<b>Q Z = 10</b>	

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## Polygon Roger Phillips



Using the given letters no more than once, make as many words as possible of four or more letters, always including the central letter. Capitalised words, plurals, conjugated verbs (past tense etc), adverbs ending in LY, comparatives and superlatives are disallowed.

**How you rate:** 19 words average; 26, good; 33, very good; 40, excellent.  
Answers to Friday's Polygon are to the left. Today's answers are printed in *MindGames* on Monday

## Cell Blocks 4573



Divide the grid into square or rectangular blocks, each containing one digit only. Every block must contain the number of cells indicated by the digit inside it.

Yesterday's solution, left

## Mindset

- 1. (1) MANILA, (2) AMSTERDAM, (3) CAIRO, (4) HANOI, (5) SUCRE, (6) LIMA. The poem is *Petra*, by John William Burdon.
- 2. 1,4,4,4. The five squares are 1, 4, 14, 44, 1444.
- 3. They each contain two three-letter abbreviations of months.

**Word Watch: Conspicuity**  
(c) Vision, sight (*Collins*).

**Hoast** (a) A cow's cough (*Chambers*). **Turnsick** (c) Vertigo (*OED*). **Limb** (c) A rascal (*Brewer's*).

**Polygon**  
fern, fine, furnish, **furnisher**, infer, infuse, infuser, inrush, insure, insurer, inure, nesh, nurse, **refurnish**, rein, rerun, resin, rinse, riser, ruin, rune, serin, shen, shin, shine, shiner, shrine, shun, sine, siren, urine, ursine.

## Scrabble

GOLFED; CROOK (B10a).

### Literary quiz

- 1 *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer.
- 2 *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson.
- 3 *The Lord of the Rings* by JRR Tolkien.
- 4 The Harry Potter series by JK Rowling.

### Cryptic Quintagram

- 1 Whet. 2 Swarm. 3 Perusal. 4 Cologne. 5 Discomfort.

## Chess David Howell

### Strife in St Louis

The chess world is reeling from its latest controversy.

After suffering defeat in Round 3 of the Sinquefield Cup, Magnus Carlsen announced his withdrawal on Monday with a cryptic tweet. The world champion's statement included a quote by football manager José Mourinho: "If I speak I am in big trouble."

Carlsen's first-ever tournament withdrawal caused an uproar. Fans soon speculated that Carlsen was protesting at perceived foul play by his vanquisher, 19-year-old Hans Niemann.

The American GM Niemann has experienced a meteoric rise. Since January 2021 he has leapt from a respectable 2480 to an astonishing 2700 on the live-rating list. Many juniors have made recent strides, but Niemann's progress is unparalleled.

In a series of post-match interviews this week, Niemann gave conflicting accounts of his moves in the game. Niemann also admitted to having been banned on Chess.com as a child for cheating but insisted that he had learned from previous mistakes, and passionately denied cheating in the tournament.

The Sinquefield Cup organisers responded to the controversy by implementing metal detectors and anti-cheating devices for later rounds. No matter what happens next, the chess world must proceed with caution. Witch hunts or unsubstantiated cheating allegations cannot become commonplace. At the time of writing, Niemann continues to take part in the Sinquefield Cup.

Here is the game that led to Carlsen's unprecedented withdrawal from the tournament. White: Magnus Carlsen  
Black: Hans Niemann  
Sinquefield Cup, St Louis 2022  
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 g3 0-0 5 Bg2 d5 6 a3

A rare choice that Carlsen had never previously essayed. Niemann thanked good fortune for correctly guessing Carlsen's subsequent moves during his pre-game preparation.

6...Bxc3+ 7 bxc3 dxe4 8 Nf3 c5 9 0-0 dxd4 10 Qxd4

A novelty. The principled 10 cxd4 entails a long-term pawn sacrifice.

10...Nc6 11 Qxe4 e5 12 Bg5 h6

Black had used 12 minutes on his clock by this point.

13 Rfd1?

Natural, but a mistake. 13 Bxf6 was stronger, as indicated by Niemann. After 13...Qxf6 14 Nd2 Qe7 15 Qb5 a6 16 Bq6 Bg4 chances are balanced.

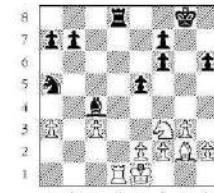
13...Be6!

A powerful counter-attack. Niemann said he had studied this move beforehand.

14 Rx8

The desirable 14 Qb5 runs into 14...Qa5! 15 Qxb7 Rfc8 16 Bxf6 Rab8 when the white queen is trapped.

14...Bxc3 15 Rxa8 Rxa8 16 Bxf6 gxf6 17 Kf1 Rd8 18 Ke1 Na5 19 Rdl



Black holds a sizeable endgame advantage. White's queenside pawns are a clear target. Niemann's technique is nevertheless impressive.

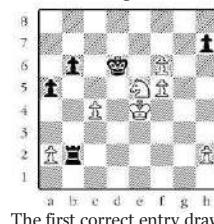
19...Re8! White cannot profit from the d-file. It is more important to keep rooks on the board. 20 Nd2 Be6 21 c4 Carlsen offers a pawn for activity. 21...Bxc4 22 Nxc4 Rxc4 23 Rd8+ Kg7 24 Bd5 Rc2 25 Ra8 26 Rb8 Rxa3 27 Re8 e4 28 g4 Rc5 29 Ba4 Ne4 When commentators suggested the superior 29...fxg4, Niemann was dismissive. He viewed a trade of minor pieces as "easily winning for Black". 30 a4

Computers point out that 30 Bxc4 Rxc4 31 gx5 Ra4 32 Rb8 b5 33 Rb6 Rx a3 34 Kd2 is a draw, although for humans this is difficult to evaluate. Black struggles to push his pawns. 30...Nd6 31 Re7 fxg4 32 Rd7 e3! The key move. Niemann had to have foreseen the tactic in order to preserve his advantage. The white king lacks squares. 33 fxe3 Ne4 34 Kf1 Re1+ 35 Kg2 Re2 36 Bxf7 Rxe2+ 37 Kg1 Re1+ 38 Kg2 Re2+ 39 Kg1 Kf6 40 Bd5 Rd2 41 Rf7+ Kg6 42 Rd7? 42 Re7 was the final blow. 42...Ng5! Accurate calculation. Rooks will disappear and Black's extra pawn will decide the game. 43 Bf7+ Kf5 44 Nf3+ Ng4 45 Kg2 Nxd2 46 a5 Ke5 47 Kg3 Nf1+ 48 Kf2 Nxh2 49 e4 Kxe4 50 Be6 Kf1 51 Be8 Nf3 52 Bxb7 Ne5 53 Bxa6 Ne6 54 Bb7 Nx a5 55 Bd5 h5 56 Bf7 h4 57 Bd5

**Ke5** White resigns The black knight will re-enter the action with a simple win.

## Winning Move

White to play. Niemann-Ruiz, chess.com 2018. How can White profit from his passed pawns and centralised knight?



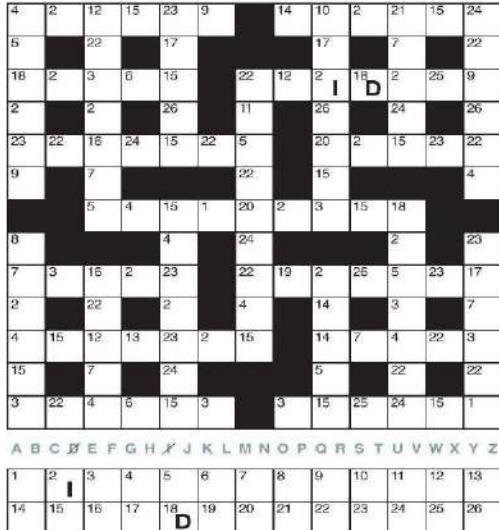
The first correct entry drawn on Thursday will receive a copy of *Collins English Dictionary and Thesaurus*. The two runners-up will receive a book prize. Answers on a postcard to: The Times Winning Move, PO Box 2164, Colchester, Essex CO2 8LJ, or email to: [winningmove@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:winningmove@thetimes.co.uk). Open to 18+, UK and ROI residents only. The answer will be published next Saturday.

**Solution to last week's puzzle:**  
1...Qxc6! wins: 2 d8Q+ Qe8+ 3 Qx8 Kxe8 and the b-pawn will promote first.

The winner is John Wilner of Long Bank, Bewdley, Worcs.

# MindGames

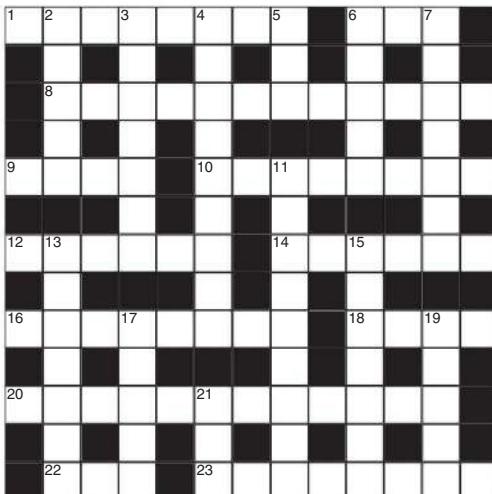
## Codeword No 4690



Every letter in this crossword-style grid has been substituted for a number from 1 to 26. Each letter of the alphabet appears at least once. Use the letters already provided to work out further letters. Enter letters in the main grid and the smaller reference grid. Proper nouns are excluded. Yesterday's solution on page 52

**Stuck on Codeword?** To receive four random clues call 0901 293 6262 or text TIMECODE to 64343. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. For the full solution call 0905 757 0142. Calls cost £1 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spokane 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm).

## times2 Crossword No 9006



### Across

- 1 Relating to La Serenissima (8)
- 6 Colour (3)
- 8 Pressing surface (7,5)
- 9 Commotion (4)
- 10 Sounded as a donkey (3-5)
- 12 Floor covering (6)
- 14 Insect (6)
- 16 Non-stopping road (8)

Solution to Crossword 9005

P	A	D	D	L	I	E	A	X	E	D
R	E	I	S	L	A					
N	O	R	M	G	S	T	R	O	I	N
R	O	H	R	Q	L					
R	A	B	I	T	A	Z	U	R	E	E
T	H	I	O							
M	A	N	I	F	E	S	T	A	T	O
N	A	J	V							
M	A	K	E	R	C	H	E	D	R	E
T	W	T	C	R	R					
T	A	P	E	D	E	I	F	F	Y	
O	L	D	E	E	L					
C	U	R	L	S	T	U	R	D	Y	

**Need help with today's puzzle?** Call 0905 757 0143 to check the answers. Calls cost £1 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spokane 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).

## The Listener Crossword No 4728 Bream by Check

Senders of the first three correct entries drawn will receive Brewer's *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* or may choose from a selection of other books (see below). Send your entry with contact details completed to: Listener Crossword 4728, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE, to arrive by September 22.

Listener 4725 solution on page 52

Prize options and more at [listenercrossword.com](http://listenercrossword.com)

More information about Chambers books can be found at [chambers.co.uk](http://chambers.co.uk)

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

The Times Crossword, Latin Crossword, Saturday Quiz and Suko are in the back of the main paper

## Bridge Andrew Robson

Here is an instructive 6NT from a charity bridge afternoon, kindly shown to me by Alan Brown of Surrey.

Dealer North N-S Vul

♦ 9			
♥ A 10 8 6 5			
♦ A K J 10 8 5			
♣ 2			
♠ Q 10 7 6 5 3	N	♦ A J 8 2	
♥ 7 4	W	♥ K 9 3	
♦ 7 6	E	♦ 3 2	
♣ 10 8 4	S	♣ J 9 6 5	
♠ K 4			
♥ Q J 2			
♦ Q 9 4			
♣ A K Q 7 3			
S	W	N	E
1♦			Pass
2♦	Pass	2♦(1)	Pass
2A(2)	Pass	3♦(3)	Pass
4NT(4)	Pass	5♦(5)	Pass
6NT(6)	end		

(1) The 16-point guideline for a reverse bid goes out of the window with such a rich six-five ("come alive") shape.

(2) Fourth suit forcing, asking for more information. However, 1♦-2♦-2♥ is game-forcing, so I'd have bid 3♦ to show my primary fit; second choice 2NT to "right-side" Notrumps (given my ♠K holding).

(3) Showing the fifth heart and therefore, because North would have opened 1♥ with 5♦-5♦, the sixth diamond.

(4) Roman Key Card Blackwood agreeing the last bid hearts.

(5) Two of "five aces" (including ♠K); not ♠Q?

(6) OK, I confess I'm a little surprised. South now knows there are two missing "aces" — which could be real ones (the sort that have an "A" on them). I'd have thought South has to pass 5♥. But perhaps there was a prize for a bid-and-made slam.

West led the six of spades. How should East defend?

At the table, East won the ace and looked no further than returning a second spade. Declarer won the king (throwing a heart from dummy) and led the queen of hearts. When West played a smooth low card, declarer wisely spurned the finesse. Rising with the ace, he rattled off all six diamonds, leading to this ending as the last diamond was led.

♦ -			
♥ 10 8 6			
♦ 10 (led)			
♣ 2			
♠ Q	N	♦ -	
♥ 7	W	♥ K	
♦ -	E	♦ -	
♣ 10 8 4	S	♣ J 9 6 5	
♠ -			
♥ -			
♦ -			
♣ AK Q 7 3			

East was squeezed. Let go a heart and dummy's hearts are promoted so he had to discard a club. And now declarer could win the last four tricks with ♠AKQ7. Slam made.

Have you spotted the winning defence? Having won the ace of spades, East must switch to a club, breaking the communications for the ending. Indeed, perhaps East should insert the jack of spades at trick one — winning the ace would be very bad if declarer held ♠QXQ (giving him a second spade trick).

Finally, note that 6♦ cannot be beaten, as declarer (North) can establish the fifth club. With 100 for honours to boot.

andrew.robson@thetimes.co.uk

## Mindset by 700

1. The names of six capital cities have been removed from a line of a poem. **What are they?**  
12T34 ME 555H 235VE6 24VE 34 EIS2ERI CL66E A 33S2-2E2 CITY H21F 6S 4LD IS T425

2. The king of Nootropia rolled four 4-sided dice. The queen noticed that five different square numbers could be made from the digits shown (not necessarily using all of them). **What did the king throw?**

3. **What two things do Trojan Horsepower, Lifeboat Renovation, Apricot Marmalade, Deceptive Mayhem and Julian's Junction all have in common with the Doctor's Daughter?**

## Literary Quiz The Times Literary Desk

### Last Orders

These inns appeared in well-known works of fiction. Name the novels. We've given the publication dates to help.  
1 The Tabard (c 1400)  
2 The Admiral Benbow (1883)  
3 The Prancing Pony (1954)  
4 The Leaky Cauldron (1997 onwards)

Answers on page 52

Answers on page 53

For more crosswords and your favourite puzzles go to [thetimes.co.uk](http://thetimes.co.uk)

## Jumbo crossword No 1575

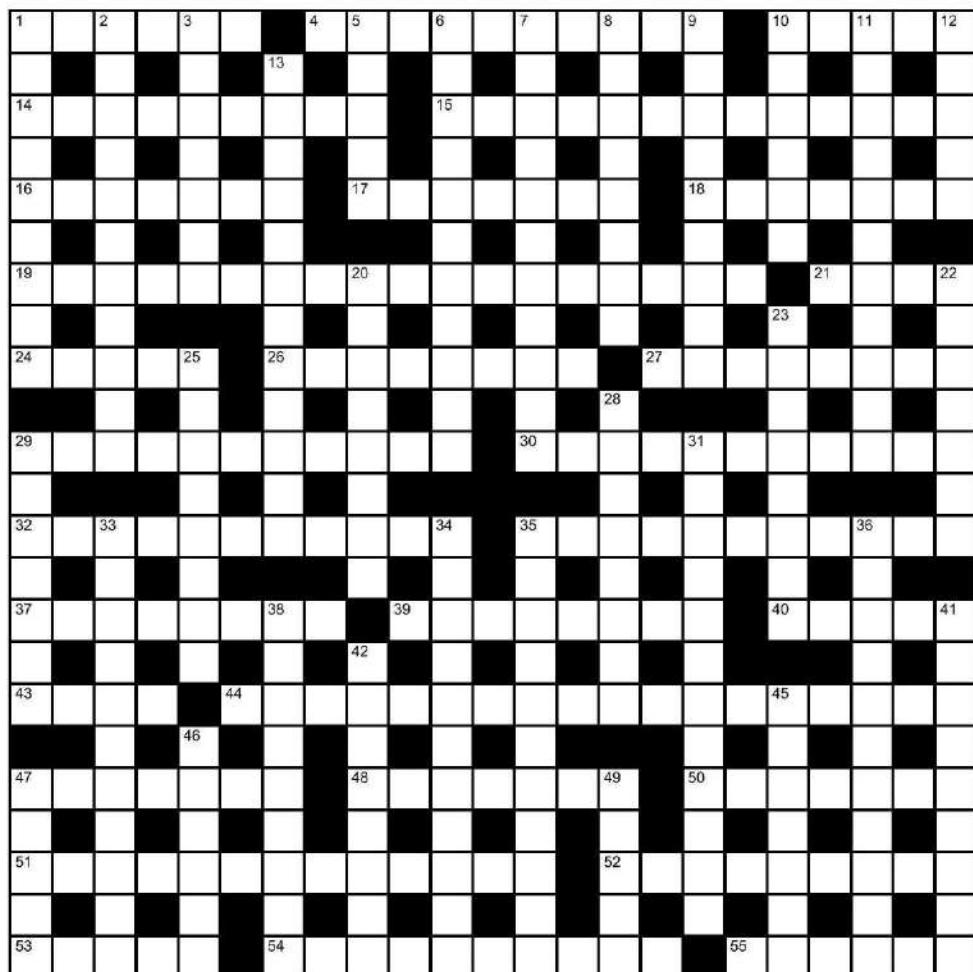
### Cryptic clues

**Across**

- So Roman hosts ladies perhaps from Prague? (6)
- Once again gather take after pocketing a shilling (10)
- Filled with seasoning, starter of lamb cut (5)
- Battling with setter primarily what cryptic crosswords offer (9)
- Worst rogue caught in lie, ultimately shady, could be described thus? (13)
- Extremely eccentric discussion item is misplaced (7)
- Reptile wanting soft ground (7)
- Public flogging for all to see during battle (7)
- What the Globe Theatre might tell us? (3,3,6,1,5)
- Tot losing heart in nightmare? (4)
- Former leader Macbeth's seen here (5)
- Figure working picked out tool (5,3)
- Day fashion journalist gets ahead in capital city (8)
- Play — if given this? (1,5,5)
- Coming to pass, right back hoping to hold Arsenal's No. 5 (11)
- One grinning teacher is travelling past Switzerland (8,3)
- Cryptic indication of "par" or standard (3,3,5)
- Duck sandwiches left with old piece of meat (8)
- A politician sacked at first for explosive stuff (8)
- Biblical figure, one keen to head west (5)
- Group of students finally pay attention (4)
- Try hard to move away from kerb everywhere you can catch a bus (4,3,3,35)
- Agreeable overlooking lake for rustic sort (7)
- Bank bordering Severn periodically smaller (7)
- Concerning vision of the compiler in plump state (7)
- Person displaying dog I wrapped in brown waterproof sheet (6,7)
- Red part in shell of vacant vehicle (9)
- Silly billy possibly picked up frozen water (5)
- After school, foolishly indulge in timetabling (10)
- Look, what striking clothes! (6)

**Down**

- Cheek on knight pinched by every Englishman (9)
- American, working as a cashier, has a party drink (11)
- Pint he'd drunk to the bottom (2,5)
- Pain to enter borders of easternmost land (5)
- Activity for couples, uncool, inside European clubs (6,5)
- Run with wanderer, no run going too far (11)
- Sporty student lifted weight with energy in reduced interval (4,4)
- Distant way over mountains crossed by Edward (9)
- Brit getting taps or knock on the head (6)
- I disapprove about providing king with vermouth served up for dessert (5-6)
- Master cook given foreign bread (5)
- Observe timepiece, having disheartened employer? This person may (5-7)
- Drop of whiskey rejected by flier that's put on a little weight (8)
- Coach and horse surrounded by horse with raised tail (7)
- Place with resistance for current particle (8)
- Male golfer's going to succeed in awful place (8)
- Possible reason for booking hotel as well as formal do (8)
- Learner in pain with fancy, spurious science (7)
- Might one snipe start to sing, interrupting clever owl? (12)
- Old priest with Conservatives on both sides expressing sudden emotion (11)
- Queen's stand-in, perhaps, in bar butted in rudely (7,4)
- Running round before games, using good sense (11)
- After 5.10, I'm leaving Italian liqueur for one in orchestra (11)
- Young bird with chills getting medical treatments (9)
- Covered area, slated on the outside (9)
- Phrase containing line by mischievous Greek writer (8)
- Release group without charge (3,4)
- Cell's entrance blocked by this person (6)
- Someone sitting in more upmarket hospital departs (5)
- Suppose king's gone scouting in the US (5)



Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode.....

Phone number.....

### Prizes

The prize for each of the first correct solutions to the Cryptic and times2 Jumbo clues to be opened will be a collection of Times reference books – including *The Times Universal Atlas of the World*, *Collins English Dictionary & Thesaurus*, and Bradford's *Crossword Solver's Dictionary* published by HarperCollins. Entries should be marked "Cryptic" or "times2" and sent to: The Times Jumbo Crossword 1575, PO Box 2164, Colchester, Essex CO2 8LJ; or emailed to [jumbo@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:jumbo@thetimes.co.uk), with "Cryptic 1575" or "times2 1575" in the subject line, to arrive by September 22. Open to 18+, UK & ROI residents only. The winners and the solutions will be published on September 24.



## Bank holiday Cryptic Jumbo solution No 1573

CANVASSER	HASSOCK	GAZED									
A O Z N A A C O C N O O O											
L A N C E C O R P O R A L	C R O S S B R E D										
S C R R D D U U C P O G											
U G R I N K D E S T R O K E	E U B E A U L G E										
M O U N T O L Y M P U S S T I P U L A T E S	I U F E B I E R T										
E P T E R P O R T F O L I O F U T I V E	S U B L I J I N U A V										
C U R V I L I N E A R T R A G E D I E N N E	A										
A N A S E H L L N D	R										
P R E V E R B E D D E E N T R E R I O	I M P E R I N E T P R O H I B I T I V E										
I B L N D H O U G B	O L N R T R T D N A										
S C U R G E D O W N T R E N D L E T H E	LE A N I N G T E L E P A T H Y I N F E R										
T U A G N A R G H	E C R H E I H N A										
S E R V I C E M A N S U G A R T H E P I L L	T I E B R E A K E R I N T E L L I G E N C E										
P N X L F T P R N A	H I S B I E R A T X										
J U R I D I C L A R C E N Y A M A L G A M	T W O S T E P R U M A G E T O U R I S T										
A O A U O E N I S T B	A A I P S S U S										
C O P I N G S A W S L I N G D O N E S H O C K	S I D E B O A R D A P P R O X I M A T I O N										
O R C E A C N O E A I L	T E D L G C L H A G D C										
B R E V E D A Y L O N G B A D M I N T O N	E R E I B E A T H R E M I N C E M E A T										

The winner is SJ Teo of Robertsbridge, East Sussex

## Bank holiday times2 Jumbo solution No 1573

I N D I G N A N T	M A T I N E E	P I P E D									
T E E S A A	E X A R A										
A D M I N I S T R A T O R	I N C O N C E R T										
L O D G E M A	W H I T S H I E L D S U										
I G I T T E R	C S I A A P E I U C										
S A T I S F A C T O R Y	P R E M A R I T A L										
R E L L E C W H S A I	R U L E S										
C E A S E S U R C H A R G E	T O T E B A G										
A T N U U A R R L H	B R E A D W I N N E R										
P R E D I C A M E N T	R E T R A C T U R E										
R E T R A C T U R E	I M P E R I N E T										
I M P E R I N E T	P R O H I B I T I V E										
O L N R T R T D N A	O L N R T R T D N A										
LE A N I N G T E L E P A T H Y I N F E R	E C R H E I H N A										
E C R H E I H N A	T I E B R E A K E R I N T E L L I G E N C E										
H I S B I E R A T X	H I S B I E R A T X										
T W O S T E P R U M A G E T O U R I S T	T W O S T E P R U M A G E T O U R I S T										
A A I P S S U S	A A I P S S U S										
S I D E B O A R D A P P R O X I M A T I O N	S I D E B O A R D A P P R O X I M A T I O N										
T E D L G C L H A G D C	T E D L G C L H A G D C										
E R E I B E A T H R E M I N C E M E A T	E R E I B E A T H R E M I N C E M E A T										

The winner is Mr Kristian Bird of London SE9

Train Tracks will return next week

### times2 clues

#### Across

- Type of fastener (6)
- While not present (2,8)
- Understood, implied (5)
- Like a type of fever (9)
- Fickleness, untrustworthiness (13)
- Early 20th-century style (3,4)
- Placed at an elevated level (4-3)
- Put forward (7)
- Bribe a person (6,8,4)
- Violent seizure of power (4)
- Italian cathedral (5)
- Dark volcanic rock named after a major range (8)
- Important; fabric (8)
- Rich person (11)
- Having a magnetic personality (11)
- Position of managerial supervision (11)
- Free from outside control (11)
- Assailant (8)
- East Sussex ferry port (8)
- Smallest (5)
- Small pointed missile (4)
- A warning (1,4,6,3,4)
- Dampen (7)
- Soft-soap (7)
- Placate with concessions (7)
- Pleasure (13)
- Plant of the buttercup family (9)
- Large strong box (5)
- Edible red fruit (10)
- Court game (6)
- Took a jagged course (9)
- Be silly (4,3,4)
- Interminable (7)
- Compass point (5)
- Middle class (11)
- EU opponent (11)
- Kind of message printer (8)
- Sung without accompaniment (1,8)
- Three-legged stand (6)
- Treater of feet (11)
- Aromatic herb (5)
- Discoloured by gore (12)
- When the day changes (8)
- Weasel-like mammal (7)

# THE SMASH-HIT COMEDY RETURNS TO THE WEST END



The Guardian



The Sun



Daily Mirror



The Upcoming

## David Mitchell as William Shakespeare

# The Upstart Crow

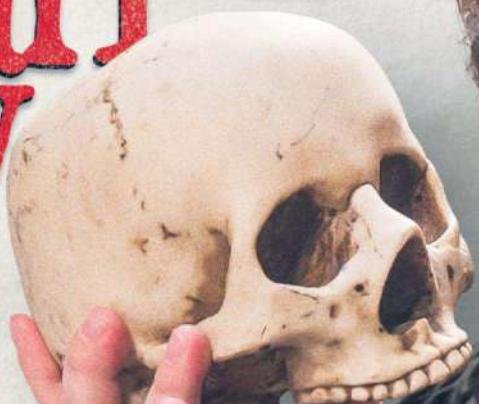
A New  
COMEDY by  
**BEN ELTON**

Featuring

Gemma Whelan

Directed by

Sean Foley



'The most  
**CONSISTENTLY**  
FUNNY COMEDY  
since One Man,  
Two Guvnors.'

The Guardian



The Times



The Telegraph



The Independent



Daily Mail



What's On Stage



The i



The Arts Desk



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# Weekend

Travel  
Starts on  
page 43

The reasons  
you're always tired  
And how to boost your energy levels

**Jay Blades**  
My easy guide to DIY and decorating at home



How to make  
Britain's best  
brownies



# The 12 reasons you're always

Unusually exhausted, but don't know why? Peta Bee on what really causes tiredness and how to get your energy back

**H**alfway through the day do you suddenly feel as if you can't keep your eyes open? Do you feel exhausted even though you made a point of going to bed early and are pretty sure you had eight hours' sleep? If you're feeling inexplicably tired at the moment, you're not alone.

"Feeling unusually tired is definitely something a lot of people complain about," says Linia Patel, a consultant dietician.

The good news is that there are measures you can take to help yourself. Often the underlying causes can be traced back to diet and lifestyle habits. "It can be down to anything from the way you are eating or exercising or to a lack of micronutrients that is leaving you feeling sluggish," Patel says. Here's why your energy levels might have slumped.

## You may be dehydrated

Patel says that this is the first thing she checks when clients complain of feeling tired. "It's vastly overlooked by a lot of people and even mild dehydration, or hypohydration, can leave you more sluggish than usual," she says. Given the recent hot, humid weather, we are all more at risk of fluid levels being low. And when dehydration occurs it places extra strain on the body's circulatory and other systems, causing mental and physical fatigue. "The simplest way to check your hydration status is to look at the colour of your urine which should consistently be a pale straw colour," Patel says. "It's best not to do this when you first get up as urine is more concentrated and darker yellow then." Some supplements, including B vitamins, can also affect the colour of urine.

"If you are tired for no apparent reason, making a concerted effort to pay attention to fluid intake can often be a turning point," Patel says. The government advice is to aim to drink about 1.2 litres of water a day, although it's not only liquids, including tea and coffee, that can boost your fluid intake but also foods with a high water content such as soup, cucumbers, tomatoes, apples and watermelons.



## Are you giving yourself mental overload?

A working day crammed with phone calls, Zoom calls and meetings that leaves you still answering emails in the evening is enough to leave you feeling drained. But scientists at Pitié-Salpêtrière University in Paris recently

discovered how this kind of mental overload can really take its toll and lead to exhaustion. They showed how intense concentration for several hours can cause potentially toxic by-products to build up in the prefrontal cortex, a part of the brain that plays a key role in cognitive control.

To simulate a working day, one group of participants in the trial were asked to watch letters appear on a computer screen every 1.6 seconds and match them with other letters while another group completed a similar, but less mentally arduous test. Both groups worked for six hours solid. Those completing the more difficult of the tasks displayed physical signs of fatigue, such as reduced pupil dilation — and they also displayed higher levels of a molecule called glutamate in their brains. Too much glutamate leaves people mentally fatigued, the researchers said, and the brain craving rest to eliminate glutamate during sleep.

Mathias Pessiglione, a neuroscientist who led the study in the journal *Current Biology*, says the findings prove that a long day at your desk results in "a true functional alteration in the brain — an accumulation of noxious substances" and that feeling tired is a red flag for us to stop working, switch off, and "preserve healthy brain functioning".

Simple steps such as clearly defining the end of the working day can be helpful, according to Mind, a mental health charity. Tidying your workspace or making a to-do list for the next day can help you to switch off, and if you work from home a study showed that a ten-minute brisk walk outside or ten minutes of meditation improved mood and reduced perceived levels of fatigue.

## You're not doing enough exercise

A brisk walk or workout might be the last thing on your mind when you are feeling exhausted, but in fact too little physical activity could be the cause of your lethargy. Studies have shown that regular, low-intensity activity helps to boost energy levels. At the University of Georgia, sedentary people who frequently complained of feeling tired were able to boost their energy levels by 20 per cent and reduce feelings of fatigue by 65 per cent when they engaged in 20 minutes of low-intensity aerobic exercise, such as walking or cycling, three times a week for six weeks. "It might seem contradictory to exercise when you are tired but moving more spurs your body to produce more



mitochondria — the powerhouses inside your muscle cells — and having more increases your body's energy supply," says Dalton Wong, the founder of Twenty Two Training. "Regular exercise also boosts oxygen circulation around the body, helping you to use energy more efficiently so you get less tired."

## Or you could be overdoing it

There's a tipping point when it comes to exercise and if you are doing prolonged or intense workouts without factoring in enough time to recover, you risk experiencing fatigue as a result of what is known as overtraining syndrome. "Rest days from hard workouts are very important, increasingly so as you get older when your body takes longer to recuperate and repair," Wong says. "If you feel tired all the time or are struggling with workouts that used to feel easy, it could be that you need to take a few days off or dial down the intensity with some stretching and

walking." Taking at least one day a week of rest from hard workouts has been shown to be beneficial when it comes to offsetting mental fatigue, repairing muscle tissue and restoring the body's reserves of fuel including carbohydrates.

## You are eating too many processed carbs

Blood sugar control has a big impact on energy levels and if you are someone who snacks on refined carbs — sugary foods, crisps, biscuits, cakes — or who over-indulges on white pasta, rice or bread at mealtimes, it could be why you are feeling tired. "Snacking on processed and sugary carbs causes your blood sugar to spike and then crash, which not only affects energy levels but can cause hunger and more unhealthy snacking," says Patel. "But over-eating refined carbs or ready meals at meal times can also make you feel sluggish for similar reasons." Healthy grains, such as brown rice, barley, corn, millet, quinoa, teff or bulgur, vegetables and the addition of

# tired — and what to do about it

COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES; BELOW: DAILY AND NEWTON; CLAUDIO TORRI/GETTY IMAGES

**Don't exercise excessively**



**Eat more iron**



some protein in the form of eggs, chicken or tofu will be more filling and help to avoid an energy crash.

"Cut intakes of all highly refined carbs to a minimum," Patel says. But to keep energy levels stable don't cut out carbs altogether. "The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition recommends that approximately half of our total food intake should come from wholesome high-fibre carbohydrates."

## You are not getting enough vitamin D

Low levels of vitamin D could be the reason you are tired. Your body can produce vitamin D when skin is exposed to sunlight and 15 minutes daily exposure between April and September is recommended to boost stores. But despite the amount of sunshine we have had this summer, if you are someone who works indoors, exercises indoors at the gym and spends little time outside, your vitamin D levels might be low. Some extra vitamin D can be found in

dairy products, oily fish, cod liver oil, milk and eggs, but there are not many natural food sources, so the government recommends that everyone takes a 10mcg supplement from September for the winter months. Researchers at the University of Florida College of Medicine suggested screening for vitamin D deficiency should be considered for people with "unexplained fatigue". Others have suggested supplementation could "significantly improve fatigue" if a vitamin D deficiency is diagnosed, although you will need to consult a dietician for precise doses.

## You may need to up your magnesium intake

A 2018 study in which researchers analysed the UK National Diet and Nutrition Survey, reported "sizeable gaps" in magnesium intake with almost one in five (19 per cent) of people in their twenties having low intakes. Magnesium is important for healthy muscle and nerve function and over time too little of it in

**“**Unexplained tiredness is often the first symptom of low iron levels

the diet can result in a loss of potassium in muscle cells, a side-effect of which can be tiredness. Meat and dairy, oat bran, brown rice, pumpkin, sunflower seeds, quinoa and dark leafy green vegetables all contain magnesium, as do dark chocolate, coffee and nuts. Men need 300mg a day; women 270mg — a 25g serving of sunflower seeds provides about 81mg magnesium and 25g almonds contains approximately 67mg.

## You may not be getting enough iron

We need iron for normal energy metabolism and the formation of red blood cells and haemoglobin that transports oxygen around the body. Unexplained tiredness is often the first symptom of low iron levels. Men aged 19–64 and women aged 50–64 need 8.7mg iron a day (women aged 11–50 14.8mg/day) but three quarters (76 per cent) of women aged 19–64 years do not consume enough. "The first step in shoring up your body's supply is through iron-rich foods such as red meat, poultry, seafood and fish, eggs, bread, beans, pulses and green, leafy vegetables and seeds," says Patel. "If you feel overwhelmingly tired and breathless, a blood test by your GP will measure the number of red blood cells and the amount of haemoglobin can tell you if you have iron-deficiency anaemia in which case a course of supplements might be prescribed."

## If you eat a plant-based diet you could be vitamin deficient

Our body needs vitamin B12 to produce healthy red blood cells and B12 also helps to break down protein and fat so that our bodies can use them for energy. "A deficiency of this vitamin can cause a form of anaemia, the symptoms of which include tiredness and fatigue," says Priya Tew, a dietitian and spokesperson for the British Dietetic Association. The best sources are foods of animal origin including meat, fish and eggs and many people get enough through diet alone.

"A glass of 200ml semi-skimmed milk provides your needs for the day," Tew says. But it becomes harder for the body to absorb the vitamin as you get older and, since B12 is not found naturally in fruit, vegetables and grains — although some plant foods are fortified with B12 — many vegetarians and vegans have low intakes. A study at King's College London reported that one in five vegans are at risk of being deficient in the vitamin.

"If you do not eat meat and dairy you are likely to need a supplement," Tew says. "Anyone over the age of 15 needs 1.5 micrograms B12 daily to stay healthy."

## Keep an eye on your alcohol intake

We all know we should stay below the upper limits of 14 units — that's seven medium-sized glasses of wine a week — but it has proved hard to break bad habits set during the pandemic when figures from the charity Alcohol Change showed that about one in five drinkers, or 8.6 million UK adults, drank more

frequently. That extra glass or two of wine could also be the reason you are groggy and tired the next day. More than six units, or two large glasses of wine, in an evening, can make us spend less time than usual in the Rapid Eye Movement (REM) stage of sleep, an important restorative stage, and that leaves you feeling wiped out the next day even if you don't have a hangover. On average it takes your body an hour to process one unit of alcohol so the advice from Drink Aware is to give your body time to process the alcohol you've drunk before you try to sleep. "Alcohol works on the same receptors as sleeping tablets so you tend to drop off quickly but later on sleep is interrupted by dehydration, a need to visit the bathroom and body heat generated as you burn off the extra calories consumed from the drink," says Neil Stanley, a sleep scientist and author of *How To Sleep Well*. If you overindulge, a hangover is a combination of dehydration, electrolyte imbalance, and low blood sugar — all of which can leave you feeling tired.

## You need to take time to destress every day

Increasing numbers of us feel overworked and overwhelmed and spiralling levels of stress are a significant cause of sleep loss for many. A 2021 study of 8,163 people aged 16 and over cited financial worries and Covid as reasons for sleep loss, and more recently there is the cost of living crisis and a background hum of worrying news stories. No wonder many of us are only too familiar with the feeling of being "tired but wired" — too stressed and upright to sleep. When unaddressed stress becomes cumulative, it can lead to mental and physical exhaustion.

"It's important to keep tabs on the way you react to stress," says Peter Olusoga, a psychologist at Sheffield Hallam University. "If you start snapping or feeling as if you can't cope with things you did previously, it could be an early warning sign that you are emotionally overwhelmed and at risk of burnout." Making time for yourself, connecting with family and friends and being "in the moment" for activities you enjoy, such as a daily walk, are important steps to take, Olusoga says. "Ask for help if you need it," he says. "Nobody is superhuman."

## Are statins to blame?

Cholesterol-busting statins are the most commonly prescribed medicines in the UK with the British Heart Foundation estimating that 7.8 million of us take the drugs to lower cholesterol levels and reduce risk of heart disease and strokes. But statins can have side-effects, including fatigue. "Research has shown that statins disrupt the pathways where coenzyme Q10 is made in the body, resulting in lower concentrations of this important enzyme in muscle tissue and in the bloodstream," Patel says. "Since CoQ10 plays an important role in the production of energy levels in the body, it could be one reason why people on statins sometimes feel tired."

A supplement could help, provided you check with a dietician or your GP first. "Ubiquinol, the active, ready-to-go form of CoQ10, is the better way to take it," Patel says.

## 4 Body + Soul

Eat chillies in the gym? They claim it burns 1,000 calories in a session. **Hannah Evans** investigates

**I**ts organisers claim it's the world's hottest new workout, and they mean that in a literal sense. I am in an underground gym in central London about to take part in the "Ring of Fire", a new 45-minute class at the boutique gym chain Gymbox. Throughout the class I will be doing shots of incredibly hot sauce, including one made with the Carolina Reaper, the spiciest chilli in the world.

The class is the brainchild of the Lazy Scientist, a man whose real name is Stephen Rushton. He has a PhD in biochemistry and his own line of hot sauces. Rushton claims that eating chillies will make me work out harder. This is because chillies contain capsaicin, a chemical compound that he says increases our energy expenditure and metabolic function when we eat it, helping us to burn more calories.

Unsurprisingly, not everyone agrees that eating chillies while you exercise makes you burn any more calories than usual. "There really is uncertainty about the effects of capsaicin in exercise," says Dr James Fraser, a senior lecturer at the department of physiology and neuroscience at the University of Cambridge. "One of the only reasonably clear effects is that capsaicin causes sweating and increased blood flow to the skin." So, the only guaranteed thing that eating chillies will do to me is to make me feel very, very hot.

At Gymbox's Victoria site I am met by Firas Iskandarani, a personal trainer. The class, he explains, is divided into six stations. At each station there's a shot of hot sauce to drink and a workout to complete. As you work your way through the stations, the sauces get hotter and the exercises more intense.

"Let me be clear, this is not for the faint-hearted," he says, firmly. "It will challenge you mentally, physically — and orally." I look nervously at the floor.

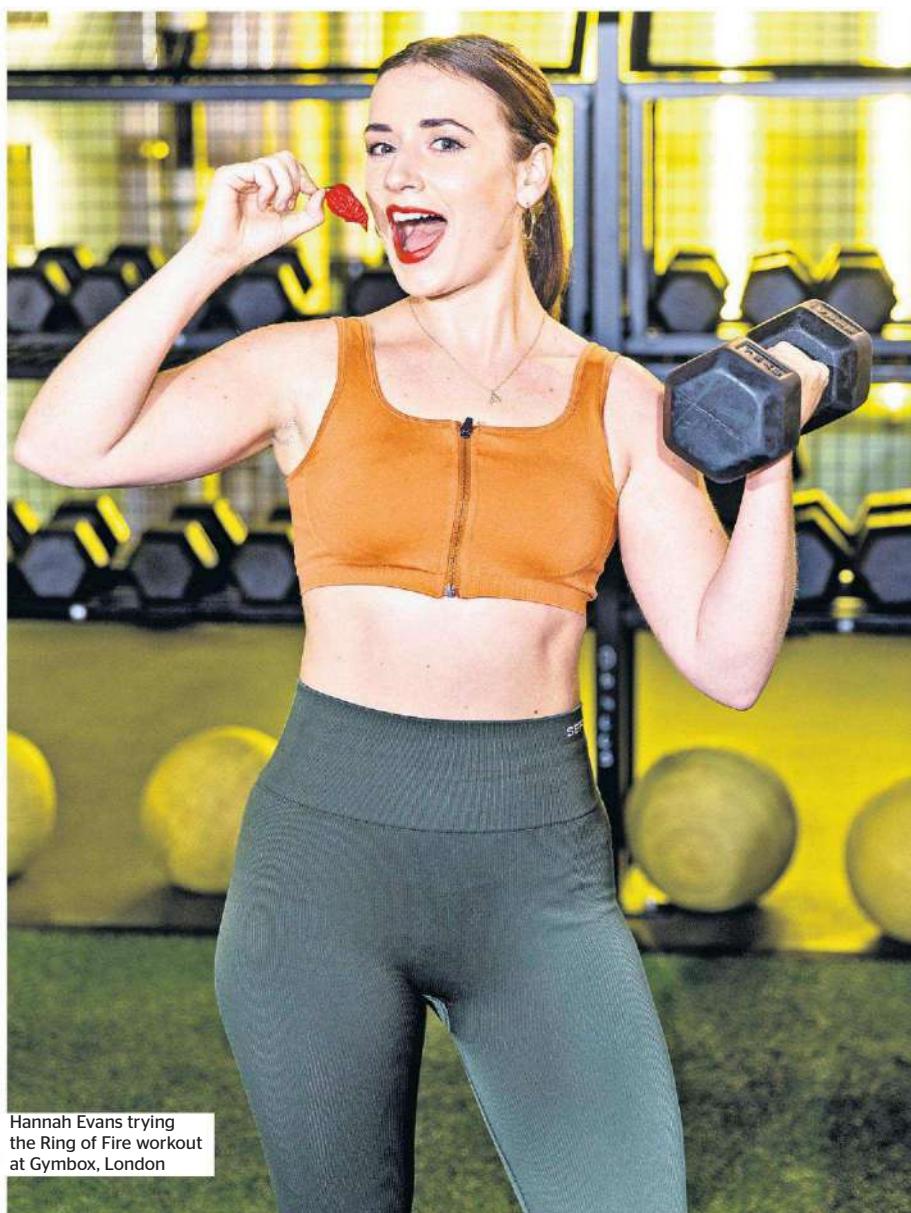
I'm relieved to know that I'm not going to be eating real chillies. Instead I'm trying them in a — hopefully — milder liquid form. They still have a kick, they just won't make my head feel as if it's about to explode. How spicy a chilli is depends on how many Scoville heat units it contains. A jalapeño has 2,500 to 8,000 units. The Carolina Reaper scores between 1,400,000 and 2,200,000.

Station one is a quick warm-up — squats and stretches — accompanied by a mouthful of spicy ginger juice to similarly warm up the palate. We then move on to station two and my first real taste of spice. Here I have to swallow a shot of hot sauce made from jalapeños and complete three sets of ten backward lunges with a 45kg barbell on my shoulders.

So far this class has combined two of my favourite hobbies — exercise and eating. As deputy food editor, I like to think I've developed quite a palate for spicy foods. This is exactly the sort of thing I drizzle onto a stir-fry.

Station three is squats holding a 16kg kettlebell. It's paired with a sauce flavoured with serrano and something... fruity. What is that? Apple? Pineapple? I realise mid-squat that it's mango! Delicious. It would be perfect with a curry.

Next up are "lateral box stepovers", which is basically stepping on and off a big



Hannah Evans trying the Ring of Fire workout at Gymbox, London

# Hot stuff! I tried the spicy new workout

black knee-high box as quickly as possible. This is accompanied by a scotch bonnet hot sauce. It makes my tongue tingle, but no more so than if I'd eaten a couple of packets of Chilli Heatwave Doritos.

So far I've just enjoyed a selection of rather nice hot sauces while doing some moderately challenging exercises. But just when I think I'm nearly done, the spice level is ramped up along with the exercises.

For my penultimate station I have to push a sled piled with 30kg of weights up and down a 12.5m track six times. On its own, this is an exercise that fires up your legs as you push the weights. Add in a shot of chocolate habanero chilli hot sauce (425,000-577,000 Scoville units) and it's a whole other level of hell. Almost immediately after taking the shot I begin to sweat in a way that I only ever have after eating a curry. I can't decide what's more painful: the exercise or my burning tongue.

Next it's a 700m sprint on an exercise bike, but not before I've had my final drink: a Carolina Reaper hot sauce. It takes me a

“I can't decide what's more painful: the exercise or my burning tongue

minute to complete the sprint but at least half an hour to recover from the sauce.

It's not just my mouth, tongue or tonsils that feel as if they're on fire. It's my ears. They feel as though they are ringing with spice. I almost fall off the bike and have to sit down for a bit on the floor.

It's impossible to tell if the chilli made me work harder. The organisers of the class claim it burns 1,000 calories. It's a great selling point, but when I check how many calories I've burnt on my Apple Watch, it's just over 400. There's also no way of telling if the chillies made a difference. What they did do was distract me from the pain of those final 15 minutes of exercise, which can only be a good thing.

Each gymgoer who completes the class gets a bottle of hot sauce to take home. I think they'd be better off with an ice cream. Half an hour, two bottles of water and an Uber ride home, and the fire in my head has finally subsided. Would I do the workout again? Absolutely, just next time you can hold the hot sauce.

## The buzz about chilli honey

If hot sauce was the It condiment last year, then in 2022 it's hot honey. Squeezable bottles infused with fiery chillies have made their way into kitchen cupboards and onto chef's tables. Drizzled over smoky tacos, squeezed onto pizza, squirted over fried chicken, fired onto salmon or spread over roast ham — it's the foodies' favourite way to add sugar and spice to their dishes.

"As soon as people try it, they are obsessed with it," says the chef Ben Lippett, co-founder of Dr Sting's, a small-batch hot honey brand based in southeast London.

And when he says obsessed, he's not exaggerating. When Dr Sting's released its first 350 bottles for sale in November, they sold out in less than 48 hours. "It's that old favourite sweet-and-spicy combination in a bottle," Lippett says. "It's a smash hit."

Today Ocado stocks four different types of hot honey. Sales of its most popular Hilltop Hot Honey (£3.50) have soared since last year. This summer, the Holy Fire Hot Honey was one of the top sellers at Sauce Shop, the go-to online store for flavoured sauces. Ottolenghi makes his own, which he drizzles on grilled veg, crispy chicken and burrata. Meanwhile, Tandoor Chop House, one of London's best-loved Indian restaurants, has just added a fried chicken finished with hot honey to its menu.

The buzz around hot honey began in the US in the early Noughties when Mike Kurtz, a chef at a pizzeria in Brooklyn, began selling it. It's now become a cult favourite in New York and he's known as the Hot Honey King. The trend has now reached the UK.

On Delli, an app where small-batch and independent chefs and bakers sell their produce to locals, Dr Sting's hot honey is the bestselling product.

The exact Dr Sting's recipe is top secret, but you can make your own cheat's version at home and use it to finish a dish. Put honey, chilli flakes, grated ginger and lime juice into a pan over a medium heat and cook for five minutes until bubbling and thick. Leave to cool, then add a dash of wine vinegar.

The best use for hot honey, according to Lippett, is over grilled meat cooked over fire. "The fire caramelises the honey and adds a smoky dimension to the meat that matches the spice," Lippett says.

His co-founder Jamie Kaye also recommends adding a dollop of hot honey to your cocktails. "A squeeze in a margarita will give it a really nice spicy taste," he says. "But to be honest, it's hard to find something it doesn't go with."

Hannah Evans



Dr. Sting's hot honey

## THE EASY DIY GUIDE

# Jay Blades: my foolproof tricks and tips (here's how to get started)

The presenter of *The Repair Shop* shares his DIY expertise

**G**rowing up on a council estate in Hackney, east London, Jay Blades never imagined he would end up on screen, let alone presenting *The Repair Shop*, which has about seven million viewers a week, making it one of the BBC's biggest primetime programmes. The show, in which members of the public bring in family heirlooms or objects of sentimental value to be restored by a team of professional craftsmen, is loved for its wholesome charm. In May, Blades received an MBE from Prince Charles for services to craft.

Blades wasn't taught how to paint a cabinet or build a wardrobe by his father, who was absent from his childhood. His love for craft comes from being brought up on a council estate by his single mother. "When you grow up in a poor environment, it's essential that you make do and mend," he says. "Not having money actually allowed me to be creative around DIY and come up with interesting ways of doing stuff. My dyslexia helped as well because you just get really creative."

That dyslexia means Blades hasn't read his new book, *DIY with Jay*. When he tries to look at a page, the words move about. For years he hid that he had the reading age of an 11-year-old. "I can't read that well. I still have a big-time problem with words," the 52-year-old says. Thanks to reading lessons, he is improving and one day hopes to be able to read the book that he dictated to a ghostwriter. "I have that as a goal, I want to read it myself."

Until then, it's challenging being a television presenter who cannot read lines from a teleprompter. Blades was asked to present an award at the Baftas this year and when a producer handed him the script, he had to admit that he couldn't read it. They asked how he would manage without any prompts and he replied: "I'm gonna wing it — I'm from east London."

His younger self would be shocked at his runaway success. "If you can't see it, you can't be it. I grew up not seeing many black people on TV and the black people I did see on TV were either criminals, pimps, drug dealers or drug addicts," he says. "It gave people in my school the ammunition to use names. I was being racially abused." At first, he was too naive to understand what the name-calling meant, but then he got into fights. He left school without qualifications aged 15.

Fame found him later in life, in his forties. A short film made about the work of his charity, Out of the Dark, which taught disadvantaged youths how to restore furniture, brought him to the attention of television researchers who saw potential and gave him a cameo in *Kirstie's Handmade Christmas* on Channel



Jay Blades

4 in 2015. He hasn't looked back since.

The other day he was scheduled to film in the streets of Scarborough for two hours, but it ended up being six after he was mobbed for selfies. "It's not often you have someone like me, who speaks like me, on TV," he says.

He hopes his book will motivate people too, but in a different way. He wants us all to pick up some tools and give DIY a go. "The book is to inspire people to say, look, if Jay can do it, I can do it." Home improvements are easier and less intimidating than most of us think, he says. "It's really simple. People make the mistake of thinking doing it yourself is all about strength." But "DIY is not all about drilling and putting up bits and bobs. DIY is really about being creative with the space you've got. And not all of us have a lot of space, so that could potentially mean hanging stuff on the ceiling." Or in the bathroom, it could mean sanding down and painting a crate, then attaching wheels as a nifty place to store your towels, he says.

Any tips for DIY beginners? "The starting point is planning. I always say perfect preparation prevents piss-poor performance."

**“**Not having money actually allowed me to be creative around DIY and come up with interesting ways of doing stuff

ance." So to put up a shelf that isn't wonky, get your spirit level, pencil, screws, Rawlplug and drill before you start, he explains.

It's also about having fun — Blades blares reggae, soul, groove and jazz music when he does DIY at home. His three children, who are 16, 27, and 31, often muck in. They have caned chairs, drilled holes and put up shelves and units. "Them doing practical stuff is really, really important. It shows that a sense of achievement doesn't only come from academia, it can come from making, repairing or building something. That is just as worthy as passing your GCSEs," he says.

There is a feelgood factor to DIY. "It's like, wow, I made that. Whether it's building a shelf or a glass unit for your hi-fi system, every day, you're gonna see that, every day you're getting that pat on the back. That's what you get from doing DIY," he says. "If that ain't good for your mental health, I don't know what is."

Blades has spoken openly about his mental health problems and having suicidal thoughts before he found fame. Seven years ago, he reached rock bottom when his charity lost funding and his

marriage ended. He got into his car and drove down the M40 with the intention of killing himself.

"I didn't hear anybody speak about mental health. One of the things that got me to the position where I had the thoughts of driving into a bridge is not speaking." So now, he believes men speaking out about how they are feeling is vital. "It's just as important as food and water to me, showing that vulnerability. I want people to know, these are the struggles I've been through."

At crisis point, he had a visit from psychiatric nurses who discussed sectioning him. But it was the community that helped him to get back on his feet — the parents of an old friend took him in and he started working again, restoring furniture.

Since his return from the brink, Blades has felt as if he has a purpose. "There's a reason why I'm still here. The reason is to show people and tell people, you can do it — whether that is DIY, or whether that is to pull yourself out of a dark place and ask for support." Georgina Roberts

Jay's top decorating tips

# My simple and (cheap) ways to

From redecorating your bedroom, to refreshing bathroom tiles and putting up shelves, **Jay Blades** gives his expert advice

## All you need to know about painting

### How to choose your paint

I always like to use water-based paint, mainly because I hate the smell of oil-based. Once you're clear what you are painting onto, you need to buy paint that's most suited to that surface. It's always worth buying a bit more than you think you'll need and returning any unopened cans. There are few things more frustrating than running out of paint midway through a job. Also check on the tin for how long it will take to dry. The main types of paint are:

- Matt: a smooth and velvety emulsion used mostly for walls, giving a classic look. The finish looks a bit like paper and doesn't reflect light, so hides imperfections.
- Gloss: this is the classic high-shine paint for woodwork, available nowadays as a water-based paint and offering a wipeable, tough finish. It does the job. I like this best for painting floors.
- Eggshell: as the name suggests, this paint is only a little bit shiny, like the shell of an egg. If you're painting your woodwork and walls the same colour, using eggshell for the wood can help it to blend almost seamlessly with the walls while giving a wipeable, hard-wearing finish.
- Satin: this has a sheen that's somewhere in between eggshell and gloss. The finish does vary a bit between manufacturers.

### How to prep the room

It may sound obvious but first of all move as much gear as you can out of the room you're going to be painting because this will really help you when you start. If any stuff is too big, heavy or awkward to shift, cover it up with proper dust sheets that won't let paint through. You can use thick fabric drop-sheets that can be washed and re-used.

Next, get rid of those cobwebs, and anything else that might be lurking on your walls and ceilings that shouldn't be there. Stray picture hooks and nails are the usual culprits. Scrape off any loose and flaking paint, then sand down any rough or uneven parts so that your wall surface is smooth and even.

Finally, protect your light switches, light fittings, doors and windows with tape. Decorators' tape is best, because it's not too sticky and comes off easily without leaving a mark, but masking tape will also do the job. Some ceiling roses can be unscrewed. This lets you paint the ceiling a little way under the rose to get the best finish. A handy hint: have you got complex, fiddly light

fittings? Then stick compostable food-waste bags around them and tape them at the top to protect them.

### How to prep and paint a wall and ceiling

Sugar soap is a type of cleaner that's brilliant for degreasing a wall or surface first. Afterwards make sure the surface is properly dry.

If you're not sure you can achieve a smooth, neat "line" at the edge of the wall to the ceiling, use decorator's tape at the top of the wall. If you are painting the ceiling start with that.

Start at the edge: use a brush and paint carefully to the edge, making sure to spread the paint evenly. You might have heard of the phrase "cutting in"? Well, that's what you need to do here. Work the paintbrush strokes at a 45-degree angle to the edge of the ceiling, so that you end up with a feathered edge to your newly painted section. Use the same technique to work around any light fittings in the ceiling.

Once you've done the edge, work inwards, using a larger brush or roller to paint the rest of the ceiling. The method for painting walls is basically the same as for a ceiling, starting at the top.

Important: don't be tempted to keep painting over the same bits if you think the paint is looking a bit patchy. At this not-quite-dry stage, you're more likely to be taking paint off the wall than putting more on. Bide your time, have a cup of tea and wait until the wall is dry before deciding whether you need another coat or not. If you're lucky, that early patchiness will disappear as the paint dries.

### The right way to paint woodwork

In an ideal world you may find that simply washing your skirting boards and door frames will be enough. However, if they do need repainting, or you want to change the colour, always leave it until after you've tackled the ceiling and walls. It's a golden rule of decorating: start at the top and work down.

You'll need gloss, satin or eggshell paint for the woodwork, which is thicker and better able to take the knocks and bashes of day-to-day life than the emulsion you use on your walls and ceilings. The different available finishes mean it doesn't have to look shiny.

You'll need to sand down the old paint to create a "key" on the surface for the new paint to stick to. A light sanding will do but make sure you get off any dust with a damp cloth, then let the surface dry before you start painting. Most gloss-paint manufacturers recommend applying a primer coat first — but



again, check the instructions on the tin and follow them.

### Painting untreated wood

If you've got new, untreated wood, you'll need to seal any knots first. The knots are where the branches would have been (and also contain sap; this is what you're sealing in, so they don't seep out over time) — they are usually round or oval and appear darker than the surrounding wood.

**Step 1** Apply two or three coats of knotting solution to all knots. If there are any holes, dents or other imperfections in the wood, use wood filler to sort them out, then sand the filler smooth once it has dried.

**Step 2** Apply primer. This is crucial as it creates a perfect surface for the subsequent layers of paint to cling to. Only skip this step if your undercoat has a primer combined within it.

**Step 3** Once the primer is fully dry, apply a thin layer of undercoat, keeping it smooth and avoiding drips. Be careful: brush in the same direction as the grain of the wood and don't apply it too thickly. Then you will probably need to apply a second or third coat once each one is fully dry. Again, refer to your paint tin and follow the instructions.

## Sanding and wallpapering

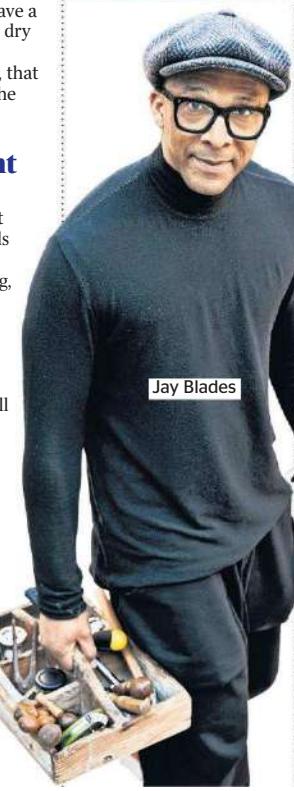
### Sanding

Sanding is absolutely fundamental to most DIY projects (be it painting a wall, upcycling furniture, prepping a surface to varnish).

All sandpaper scratches the surface of whatever it's rubbed against. The coarser it is the deeper those scratches will be. Sandpaper comes in varying levels of abrasiveness. This is called the "grit", and it's measured using a numbering system. The lower the number the coarser and rougher the sandpaper will be.

If you need to sand the edge of some sawn wood, for example, you might start off with a medium to coarse sandpaper to take off any really rough bits, but move on to a medium to fine sandpaper to give a smoother finish. Sandpaper sheets will last for multiple small jobs, especially if you fold them into a wad and keep changing the fold to use a different part of the paper.

If you need to achieve a flat surface, this is where a sanding block comes in. It is exactly what it sounds like: a block of wood or other fairly solid substance with perfectly flat surfaces that you can wrap sandpaper around.



# transform your home



## How to fix scratches on floors

If your flooring has ugly scratches, you can probably make it look loads better even if you can't get rid of the marks completely. For any surface that's got a plastic or vinyl top layer, gently rub down the scratch with really fine-grit sandpaper, then apply an oily or waxy furniture polish and buff it up with a soft lint-free cloth. You should see a big improvement straight away.

For scratches in natural wood, rubbing a walnut over the scratch should work well for darker wood. You can also buy wax-repair sticks in different natural shades to match your boards.

For ceramic tiles I'd advise talking to your local hardware or tile store. There are lots of repair kits out there, but it's important to get the right one for your particular tiles.

## Stripping wallpaper

If you want to freshen up your walls with new wallpaper or simply get rid of some sad-looking strips, you need to remove all of the paper completely first to create smooth walls for papering or painting.

**Option 1** A simple solution of hot water with liquid detergent is about as eco-friendly as it gets, and cheap too. Apply this to the wallpaper surface to wet it and let it seep through to the back of the paper. A sponge or a spray bottle are best for this.

**Option 2** Steam the paper away by hiring a power steamer. You just hold the hot steam plate against the wallpaper. The steam will moisten the adhesive and make paper removal much easier. If you gently score the wallpaper first — taking care not to mark the wall underneath — it will help the water or steam to get behind the paper, enabling it to be gently lifted off.

Once the paper begins to loosen, encourage it off the wall using a scraper or stripping knife to lift it. This can get messy as soggy paper falls away, so make sure you've protected the floor first.

If your wallpaper is particularly stubborn, you can buy chemical wallpaper stripper that you spray or brush over the wallpaper. This will quickly dissolve the adhesive, making even the toughest removal jobs easier.

## Hanging wallpaper

There are lots of different types of wallpaper but essentially they all involve a roll of paper that you need to stick to your wall in precisely placed vertical strips. Always read the instructions on the roll packaging for what type of adhesive to use. Prepare your walls in the same way as for painting — using sugar soap and cleaning away cobwebs and stray picture hooks or nails — so they are clean, dry and smooth. Scrape off any loose and flaking paint, then sand down rough or uneven parts so that your surface is smooth and even.

**Step 1** Start papering in the centre of the wall — or if you have a feature such as a chimney breast, start in the middle of that. Use a plumb bob or a long spirit level to mark a perfectly vertical line down the wall.

**Step 2** Prepare your first length of wallpaper as per the instructions so it is ready to stick to the wall. Make sure you know which way is up, so the pattern is pointing the right way. Remember: you need to cut a slightly longer length than the wall so the paper extends a few cm above and below the top and bottom, which will be trimmed later.

**Step 3** Carefully transfer the paper from the pasting table or working surface to the wall. Align it with your marked vertical line and press in place using a wallpaper hanging brush, working from the top downwards and outwards as you move towards the bottom of the strip.

**Step 4** Smooth the paper and encourage any air bubbles out to the side, then use a craft or utility knife to trim the excess paper at the ceiling and skirting board (make the knife is super-sharp because the wallpaper will be damp from the paste and prone to tearing).

**Step 5** Your second drop needs to butt up to the vertical edge of the first and match the pattern perfectly. Once you're confident about this, cut the paper for the second drop and repeat the fixing process.

**Step 6** If you have obstacles to paper around, such as light switches, cut an opening in the paper in an X shape from the centre of the obstacle to each corner, folding the resultant flaps outwards so you can paste the paper flat around the object. Trim the flaps off with a sharp craft or utility knife or scissors once it's pasted in place.

## The 10 tools everyone needs

### 1 Pencils

Pencils are necessary for pretty much every DIY job: marking where to position something, where to cut something or where to drill or hammer.

### 2 Tape measure

Measure twice, cut once. I can't stress enough how important it is to measure things properly. That way you can plan efficiently, make things to fit the space or calculate exact quantities for things like tiles and wallpaper. Make sure you have a sturdy retractable tape measure. They don't get tangled up.

### 3 Level

There's no point putting up a shelf if everything is going to roll off it because it's slanted. Luckily, there are plenty of handy gadgets to help you get this right. There are free smartphone apps or you can buy laser levels that emit a beam to use as your straight line. Or go old-school with an old-fashioned spirit level that has an air bubble inside liquid.

### 4 Small craft hammer

These are quite useful for more delicate work when you are using little pins or tacks. You don't always want a big, heavy hammer.

### 5 Big everyday hammer

For the times when you do want to give a job plenty of welly, the most common type is a claw hammer. One side of the head is flat for bashing nails in, and the other side has a curved "claw" for pulling nails out.

### 6 Spanner/wrench

Adjustable ones are the most versatile and even these come in a range of sizes. You need a wrench to tighten or loosen bolts, nuts or pipes.

### 7 Drill

You definitely need a decent drill, and a selection of different drill bits. Cordless drills are best — they're easier to use and manoeuvre in tight spots, and you don't have to worry about being near a power point. Remember: drill bits will get blunt over time and need replacing.

### 8 Screwdriver

If you have a decent screwdriver it'll save you time on loads of jobs, big or small, especially if you use an electric one. Most modern ones come as a set with a variety of interchangeable heads to fit different sizes of screw, and a switch on the handle which will easily turn a screw in either direction.

### 9 Small lidded containers

See-through containers with lids, such as old jam jars, are invaluable. I'm always losing screws and bits and bobs — they end up going everywhere. So store them in something see-through.

### 10 Magnet

For some reason you don't usually find a magnet in "essential tools" lists. Well, it's essential for me. If you drop a screw, nail or other small metal bit down a crack, it can be a nightmare. A magnet can be a superhero in this situation.



Jay's top tips Next page

# Dripping taps? Wonky shelves? Time

always use a level — your floor or ceiling may not be perfectly horizontal.

## Wall-hung shelves

Once you've decided what you'll use as a shelf, you need a way to fix it to your wall. Shelf brackets are the most popular way of doing this. These usually come in an L shape or similar, and are either screwed to the wall below the shelf or above it, depending on the design. It's crucial that the brackets are appropriate for the size and weight of your actual shelf and what you intend to put on it: a heavy piece of timber isn't going to stay up long if it is supported by flimsy brackets intended for a tiny, lightweight piece of MDF.

## Alcove shelves

If you've got any sort of alcove, such as next to an old chimney breast, this is an ideal place to put shelves, which look great and don't need traditional brackets. You will need a shelf that is cut to the exact width of the alcove and some wooden battens (pieces of wood that sit under the shelf to hold it up).

**Step 1** Measure the width of the alcove at the exact height you want to put each shelf — this might not be exactly even all the way down the wall space if your walls aren't perfectly straight. Cut the shelves to fit and mark lightly in pencil which shelf goes where if the widths vary a little. Cut a piece of batten to the same length as the back of each shelf.

**Step 2** Measure the depth of the shelves and cut two pieces of batten for each shelf at approximately two thirds of this measurement. Cut one end of each batten at a 45-degree angle.

**Step 3** Drill two holes in each side batten and four to eight in the back batten. Mark the wall with the positions of the holes and drill accordingly. The angled end of the side battens should be at the front, with the longest edge uppermost. Attach the battens to the wall — be sure to use the correct screws and wall plugs.

**Step 4** Slot the shelf into the alcove on top of the battens, then secure it with small wood screws on the back and sides.



## How to hang your pictures

### Choose one focal image

The best thing to do is to choose one picture that you absolutely love and position it so that it draws your eye towards it. Ideally, hang it so that it can be seen from multiple angles: the top of the stairs is usually a great place, or at the end of a corridor.

### Doing the 'gallery hang'

A good trick for making this sort of display work well is to think about the spacing between the picture frames, rather than worrying about lining up the frames themselves, which might all be different sizes.

If you stick to the same-sized gap between the pictures, and opt for tops and bottoms of frames to be either aligned or very obviously not aligned, then you're likely to be well chuffed with the results. Don't go for almost but not quite lined up, though — that's never easy on the eye.

### How to hang pictures of the same size

I think this is the most difficult type of picture hanging, because you've got to be spot-on. For best results, turn to trusty pencil and paper.

Draw the planned arrangement first, with the measurements of the frames and your chosen amount of space between each.

Once you've got that, you'll need to mark the top centre point of each frame, then calculate the distance between these points, both vertically and horizontally. Once you have those measurements (don't forget to double-check them), mark the wall and fix your picture hooks or nails at the correct points.



## Fixing and cleaning tiles

### Sort out grotty grout

Grout tends to get spots of mould on it over time, but before you go out and buy a special tile cleaner try one of the following DIY eco-friendly options first.

The simplest thing is good old washing-up liquid — a few squirts in a small bowl, topped up with warm water. Swish together and get going with an old toothbrush dipped in. Or mix a cup of bicarbonate of soda with enough water to make a paste. Apply this to your grout,

leave it on for about half an hour, then rinse off. Another great cleaner is white vinegar: spray it on and leave for about half an hour before rinsing off. If any stubborn marks remain, give them a hard scrub with the old toothbrush and some more of your chosen cleaning agent, leave for half an hour, then rinse again. That should do it.

If your grout is still looking a bit grotty, you can use a special type of paint that comes as a thick marker pen — a grout pen. You can match the colour to your grout, or even change the colour with it. You might be secretly tempted to skip the cleaning bit and go straight for this pen option, but take it from me: if you do that, it'll end in tears. The pen will look great at first, covering up the grime, but it won't last well — it

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# to learn how to fix it yourself



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just won't stick to dirt as well as it will to a clean surface.

## Fixing cracked tiles

Cracked tiles look pretty unsightly — so it's well worth a bit of effort to get the cracked ones out and put replacements in. Here's how you do it:

**Step 1** Drill a hole in the centre of each tile you want to remove. Wearing safety goggles, use a hammer and chisel to get behind the tile and ease it out.

**Step 2** Once you've cleared all the bits of tile, carefully chisel out the old adhesive.

**Step 3** Spread the back of the new tile with tile adhesive. Be careful to put on just the right amount to ensure the new tile sits flush with the others. Press it into place and wipe any excess from the surrounding tiles.

**Step 4** Once the adhesive has fully dried, grout around the new tile, wiping any excess or grouting that gets on the tile.

## How to repaint tiles

Modern tile paint is really good, and it's a quick, cheap and easy way to revamp your bathroom. The key to success is to prepare well. First, remove all traces of dirt, grease and grime. Remember: the grout will be painted too. So, if there's any damage to repair, get that sorted, then sand the tile smooth using fine sandpaper and wash them down with sugar soap to wipe away any dust. Leave plenty of drying time before you paint. Next: tape all of the edges so your paint stays on the tiles.

With any tile paint, the best finish is achieved via even strokes of a good-quality paintbrush or a roller. Use small amounts of paint, covering a specific area, and move across the tiled surface methodically. If you come across a bit where the paint doesn't stick, don't just keep going over it. Instead, use a damp cloth to remove the tile's paint, then give it a scrub with a scouring pad dipped in soapy water or sugar soap. Wipe dry with a lint-free cloth and carry on painting — one coat should be enough.

## The two plumbing skills that you can't live without

### How to stop a dripping tap

If we were going to give out prizes for the most common bathroom problem, I reckon this would be the winner by a long way. And yet dripping taps are super-easy to fix. Usually all you need to do is replace the rubber washers inside. It's a job you can easily do yourself, as long as your taps are standard. First, shut off the water to the taps. Most pipes leading to taps have a special valve so that you can stop the water reaching just that tap and the rest of your house is unaffected. All you need to do is turn the screw with a screwdriver.

Now, have a look at your tap. With nearly all of them, you can just take the tap apart, remove the degraded washers, replace them with new ones and put it back together. Here are a few tips and hacks to help you get the job done:

**Step 1** Put the plug into the plughole so you don't lose any pieces.

**Step 2** Have your phone ready to take photos of what fits where as you take it apart. This will help you with reassembly.

**Step 3** Put a paper towel or cloth on the side of the sink to place each part onto. Important: place them in order of removal.

**Step 4** Work methodically and slowly, and never force a component out as it could break.

**Step 5** When you've taken your tap to bits, you'll have at least one rubber washer. Replace it and any others with new ones, and inspect the other elements of the tap. If anything looks worn or cracked, you might be able to

order just that component rather than replace the whole tap, which can be a cheaper option.

Your local DIY store can advise you if you show them the problem part, or you might be able to find it online. It helps to know the brand and/or model of the tap before you start your search. When it comes to putting everything back together, make sure that all parts are clean and dry, then reverse the process of taking the tap apart.

### My guide for clearing a blocked bathroom pipe

This won't be pretty — in fact, this job can be revolting if it's not been done for a while. Basically, hair, soap scum, toothpaste and shampoo all love to hang around in your pipes, clinging to the sides as the weeks go by.

The easiest way to access your waste pipes is by removing the U-bend or bottle trap. It should be obvious how to unscrew them as they are designed to be removed easily. But remember: there's water in there, so put a big bucket underneath before you start.

Once your trap is free, use an old cloth or some kitchen towel to wipe out the gunk. Clear any visible slimy bits from the pipes with an old toothbrush or a washing-up brush. Before you replace the trap, check the edges of the pipes for damage. Are any rubber washers on push-fit fittings in good condition and in the right place? Are the parts to be rejoined all clean and dry?

Should you need to replace any component, take the old one with you to your DIY store and match it to a new part.

Extracted from  
*DIY with Jay* by  
Jay Blades  
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## Nail or screw? What to use when

Nail or screw? It can seem like they do the same job, and they are pretty interchangeable for some tasks. However, there are a few differences that will help you to decide which to use when.

Screws are a better option for temporary jobs as they're easier to remove than nails. For either option, though, it is important to check the walls for pipes and cables before you screw or nail into them, and ideally search for studs to provide support.



### Nails

There's a nail for pretty much every job. They are mostly used for larger projects when they are needed en masse, such as along joists or for nailing plasterboard or flooring, as they tend to be stronger and less expensive than screws.

Use sturdier, longer nails for securing larger joins and for thicker materials such as plasterboard and large timber, but turn to smaller nails and tacks for upholstery work and smaller joins.

Nails are easy to insert by hand with a hammer or using a nail gun, and the heads can be hammered flush with the surface of the material you are nailing.

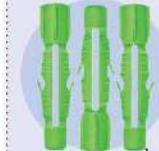


### Screws

Screws are best for smaller projects such as woodworking and fixing hinges.

Get a good mix so you have a variety of sizes and lengths for different purposes. Keep them separate or in a big box with compartments if you can, so you can always find the right size when you need it.

Screws require a little more work to affix than nails, and you often need to drill a pilot hole first, but an electric screwdriver will do the hard yards for you.



**Wall plugs**  
These little plastic plugs are a life-saver if you're screwing into brittle material or a structure that might not support weight, eg when you're hanging pictures.

To fit them, first drill a hole in the material, using the correct size of drill bit for the plug, then insert the plug into the hole. You can then put your screw into the plug, which will grip the screw and expand slightly into the surrounding wall. This will create a really strong joint and protect your wall from damage.

# He prefers a book at bedtime

**Suzi Godson**  
Sex counsel

**Q** My husband and I are in our sixties, and have been together for nearly 30 years. Our appetites have always matched but he has gradually become less keen on having an active sex life than me. He sometimes seems to be happier with a book at bedtime. How can I reignite his interest?

**A** There are many, many joys that come with being with the same person for years and years. The comfort, warmth and quiet understanding is a very special thing—but it is not necessarily sexy. The longer a couple have been together, the less likely they are to be having regular sex. There was a study in the early Eighties that asked newlywed couples to keep a diary during the first 12 months of marriage. Analysis showed that in the first month after the wedding, couples had sex an average of 17 times. Twelve months later they were having sex about twice a week. Add ageing into the equation and numbers decrease yet further.

Although ageing and relationship duration affect sex, in later life poor health often has a much more profound impact. After the age of 50, wear and tear is inevitable and one issue can be a decrease in libido. But there are things you can do.

Changing lifestyle behaviours can help. Lots of people slip into the habit of drinking alcohol every night as they get older, but it is a big contributor to sexual dysfunction. The psychological impact of ageing is also worth noting. For some, a calmer,

quieter life is liberating. For others, this can lead to a feeling of redundancy. Because anything that affects a man's mental or physical wellbeing can affect his desire to have sex, it's worth exploring these issues when you talk to your husband about trying to reignite your sex life. Is he stressed? Is he sleeping? Could he be depressed? Although women suffer more from depression than men, 18 per cent of men experience their first bout of depression over the age of 45, according to research from Colorado State University.

I know you are keen to get things back on track, but talking to your husband about how he is feeling is a necessary step on the path back to physical intimacy. Focus on building his confidence rather than overwhelming him with sexual demands, because the longer you have avoided sex, the harder it is to imagine getting back into it. It is also important to acknowledge that people don't age at the same rate, so your husband may be feeling the years more than you are. While it is great that you are intent on keeping your

“Take every opportunity to increase physical contact. All touch increases intimacy

sex life in good shape, be realistic. We all get slower and stiffer with age, but we still reap the benefits of physical tenderness and human touch. Start by taking every opportunity to increase physical contact, whether that's holding hands, linking arms or massaging his shoulders. All touch increases intimacy.

Sex doesn't have to be a big production—it is much more important to connect and to be intimate. Instead of intercourse, think about skin-to-skin contact; touching, kissing and cuddling. Human beings are not designed to live without physical touch. In fact its absence has been firmly linked to poor health as well as sensory and cognitive decline. In contrast, couples who remain intimate in later life are less stressed, have increased immunity, sleep better and have better cardiac health.

Send your questions to [weekendsex@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:weekendsex@thetimes.co.uk)

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## The Paralympic swimmer Ellie Simmonds on life after retirement and joining Strictly

**E**llie Simmonds has won five Paralympic gold medals and set a world swimming record. Now she's competing in this year's *Strictly Come Dancing*. "Oh my gosh, I was so excited to be asked to be part of *Strictly*," she exclaims. "When I found out, I was so happy I was bouncing." Better than all the medals? "Up there, yeah," she says, giggling.

Having been born with achondroplasia, the most common form of dwarfism, Simmonds, 27, is 4ft tall. What everyone wants to know — bluntly — is how will she and her professional dance partner (as yet not allocated) make the height difference work? "We'll talk about it," she says with a shrug. "It's all new, probably for my partner and for me, so it's something we've got to work out. That's exciting, isn't it? It's a challenge for both of us."

She's totally unruffled — after all, *Strictly* has an excellent record on disability. Previous contestants have included several Paralympians. Last year's winner, the actress Rose Ayling-Ellis, is profoundly deaf. "The show's amazing at inclusivity and raising awareness of different disabilities. It's a huge platform to show the world," Simmonds says.

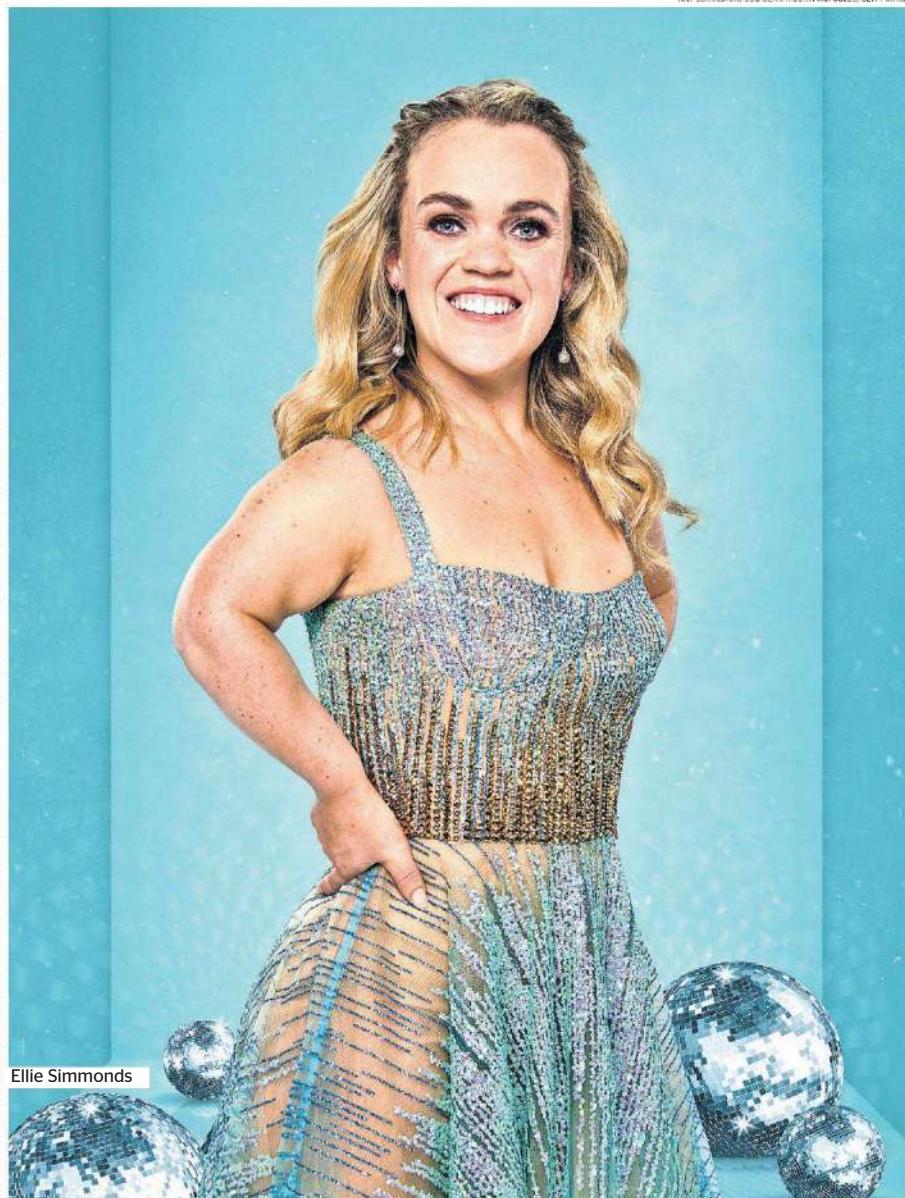
Strictly is Simmonds's first big career move since quitting swimming after the Tokyo Olympics. "I cannot wait for the glitz and the glamour — I'm gearing up for the spray tan," she says. "Normally I have my hair back in a swimming hat, I'm not caring about make-up because I'm in goggles, I smell of chlorine and look tired and wet all the time. As an athlete you're very driven. When I get interviewed after a race I'm puffing. So people will get to see a different side to me, having lots of fun."

Speaking over Zoom from a conference room in central London, Simmonds comes across as greatly likeable, sparky and unaffected. She grew up in Walsall in the West Midlands, the youngest of five children, of whom she and her sister Katie, five years her senior, had dwarfism, which can be caused by recessive genes.

Her average-size parents, Steve, an environmental consultant, and Val were "always super-positive". They said, "There might be times when you get stared at in the street, but you're just different and that's great." She's philosophical about how the world "isn't designed for little people. It's all we know. We have to just adapt, using bins as stools, climbing everywhere. It's sometimes annoying but you're so used to it. When I go down the shops, I ask people to reach me something that's on the high shelves and they're so helpful." She's never been bullied. "I loved school, loved it."

Simmonds began swimming at five and competed against average-size children from eight. She won her first Paralympic medal aged 13 in Beijing in 2008. A year later she became the youngest recipient of an MBE, in 2013 elevated to an OBE.

Did her dwarfism drive her to win? "Maybe it heightened my competitiveness. That determina-



# Normally I smell of chlorine. I can't wait for the Strictly glitz

by Julia Llewellyn Smith



tion to succeed and adapt — it's a massive thing." Wanting to show she was exactly as capable as everyone else? "Definitely."

She went to Tokyo knowing it would be her last Olympics but with no plan as to what would come afterwards. "When you're in the Games you're just so focused on being part of the team, I decided I'd give myself a year to figure out what I wanted to do but also to relax and enjoy retirement."

In this she's succeeded. "I don't have a structure or a plan any more. I wake up and every day is different. That whole coffee in bed thing has been so nice. I've been enjoying not smelling of chlorine, saying yes to things like wed-

dings and friends' parties instead of having to just think about your sport and the sacrifice. When I lived in London I used to set my alarm for 4.45am and get the first Tube at 5.15am to go swimming. I'd walk to the station, especially if it was Saturday morning, seeing people coming back from their night out."

This year, Simmonds and her boyfriend of the past two years, Matt, who works for an insurance company, bought a house in a Cheshire village, "for a slower pace of life".

"Eventually, hopefully we'll get a dog and I'm thinking about chickens — as many animals I can get in the house." Babies are also on the horizon.

Matt, who also has dwarfism, "doesn't have a clue about swimming", she adds. "The other day I was going outdoor swimming and he said, 'Will you be OK? There's

## Ellie Simmonds's perfect weekend

**Wine or water?**

Water. If it's alcohol it will be prosecco

**Thank-you card or thank-you text?**

Text

**Ideal night out: dinner party or hit the dancefloor?**

I like both, but now... the dancefloor!

**What's your signature dish?**

I do a sweet-and-sour tofu with brown rice and asparagus and tenderstem broccoli

**Deliveroo or cooking from scratch?**

Deliveroo

**Who or what is your screensaver?**

It's a beautiful seascape. If I could come back as anything it would be a fish, or something to do with the ocean

**I couldn't get through the weekend without...**

Pyjamas. Having a day to myself

been a lot of drownings lately.' I was like, 'Er, do you know what I've done?' I think he meant it in a jokey way, he's so caring. He looks after me. He's quiet and I'm more sociable, but they say opposites attract."

The couple had to cancel a planned road trip across the US when *Strictly* called. "Matt was fine about it, though he said if it was the other way round I'd have been devastated — and I would have been." Is he worried about the curse of *Strictly*? "We're pretty content."

Simmonds hasn't just been living the good life, she's been using her new freedom to make documentaries. This year a film she's made for ITV about disability and adoption will be released, and in April she presented the BBC's *A World Without Dwarfism?* about a new drug, vosoritide, developed to treat children with achondroplasia.

"At the start of the journey I was very against it. I'd seen all this stuff on Facebook forums and in the dwarfism community. 'This is the worst thing in the world.' I was like, 'Why do we need this drug to change us? We're happy with who we are. I wouldn't be where I am today if I wasn't a dwarf.' Whereas throughout the journey meeting all the different families in Britain and America, individuals for and individuals against it, I learnt so much. I realised taking the drug is a choice and I'd been very much tunnel-visioned. I've had great support always, but for some people dwarfism is so new, it's the unknown and that's a scary thing. If you're pregnant and learn your child has achondroplasia, you google it and they tell you life expectancy is the worst of the worst, when actually we live just the same [length of] life as everyone else. 'We can't fight these big, big medical companies,' she continues. "We've just got to raise awareness that it's OK living with dwarfism."

Back to *Strictly* preparations. These days Simmonds swims only for about 20 minutes a week "to clear my mind" and does around three gym sessions. "I have piled on the pounds since I retired."

*Strictly* will shift them and she's confident her athlete mindset will hold her in good stead. "But I'll be using muscles I have never used before. Dancing's high impact and with dwarfism we have weaker knees and bowing of the legs, so I've got to figure all that stepping. I definitely need to learn to be an actress, to smile and not look focused. The sleepless nights are kicking in. It's like Christmas Eve. You want Christmas Day to come but you're also nervous because you don't know what the day is going to be like."

**Strictly Come Dancing** starts at 6.10pm on Saturday, September 17, on BBC1 and BBC iPlayer





## The most decadent brownie ever (it has caramel in it)

### Ingredients

#### For the base

125g butter, melted  
250g soft light brown sugar

#### 1 medium egg

100g plain flour

#### ½ teaspoon ground cardamom

a pinch of salt

#### For the caramel

100g sugar

100g golden syrup

150ml double cream

a pinch of salt

50g chilled butter

1 tsp miso paste

#### For the brownie

200g dark chocolate, broken up into small pieces

150g butter

190g caster sugar

3 medium eggs

125g plain flour

1 tablespoon cocoa powder

1 teaspoon salt

### Method

1 Preheat the oven to 180C fan and line your 22 x 33 x 5cm baking tray.

2 Make the base by beating together the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy, then add the egg and mix together. Sift in the flour, ground cardamom and salt, and fold in until smooth. Spread into your lined tray using a spatula, making sure to get right into the corners. Bake for approximately 25 min, or until it is dark

gold. Set aside to cool, and reduce the oven temperature to 160C.

3 Next, make the caramel. Heat the sugar and golden syrup in a heavy-based saucepan over a medium heat until it has melted together and is bubbling. Whisk in the cream, the miso and a pinch of salt, along with 30g of the butter, then increase the heat to high. Keep things bubbling until the caramel turns a deep golden colour. Test the caramel by putting a spoonful on a cold plate. Leave it for a minute, then check to see how firm it is. You want it to be firm, but still pliable. When the caramel is ready, whisk in the remaining 20g butter and remove from the heat. Pour the caramel over the cooked pastry base and spread it with a spatula, but not quite to the sides. Pop the tray in the fridge or freezer so the caramel can set.

4 Make the brownie by melting the chocolate and butter in a bain-marie. Once melted, add to a large mixing bowl and start adding the sugar a bit at a time. Keep mixing until the sugar dissolves. Add the eggs and beat at high speed until the mixture emulsifies, becoming glossy and smooth. Reduce speed and add the flour, cocoa powder and salt. Mix well. 5 Pour the brownie mixture over the set caramel and spread it out to ensure it is level. Bake for 20–25 min and leave to cool in the tray before transferring to a board and slicing.



## For great value wine, head to Greece Jane MacQuitty

**O**nce a quirky producer of dodgy whites and stinky pine-scented retsina, Greece has turned itself around since the mid-1980s. This was when producers got fed up with churning out dreary wine and flogging it to the local co-operatives and decided instead to aim higher and bottle wine themselves. As a result, exciting indigenous Greek wines have steadily found their way onto our supermarket shelves and restaurant lists, with great-value wine on sale everywhere from Aldi to The Wine Society.

With so many unique grapes grown in so many corners of this mountainous country, it's hard to get to grips with the numerous styles and flavours. As with Italy, it would take several lifetimes to know it all. But I advise you to start your journey in Naoussa, in the north in Macedonia, where the red xinomavro grape, the country's finest, rules.

With its zingy acidity, pale hue and assertive tannins, it's easy to see why winemakers such as the talented Apostolos Thymiopoulos compare

xinomavro to nebbiolo and pinot noir. Check out Thymiopoulos's brilliant-value Atma and Earth and Sky stars, below. Or, for a change, try the Alpha Estate's elegant, leafy, strawberry-scented French oak-aged 2018 Pinot Noir (Aldi, £14.99).

Given that two thirds of Greek wine is white, make space for its most thrilling sip yet, assyrtiko, the country's answer to chablis. Great assyrtiko — and there are lots of them — is an aromatic, steely, saline star with mouthwatering acidity, high alcohol and drop-dead gorgeous citrus and stone-fruit flavour. Santorini's volcanic soil produces the finest assyrtiko, and the greenish-gold, rich, spicy, citrus-blossom and mineral charge of the 2020 Santorini White Ash (Majestic, £23.99) is worth every penny.

Of all the islands, though, it is Crete that beckons, with the vidiano grape a star in waiting. The 2021 Kompso, topped up with assyrtiko and malvasia, bristles with herby, zingy pizzazz (thewinesociety.com, £9.95). Or spend less on the Society's 2021 Greek White, a fresh, grapey, floral moschofilero-roditis grape gem (the winesociety.com, £8.95).

**“**Assyrtiko is an aromatic, thrilling white — it is Greece's answer to chablis



**Top Greek bottles**

**2021 Assyrtiko Aspri**  
**Petra Filos Estate, 13 per cent** Aldi, £6.99

Bargain-buy, steely, herb and stone fruit-stashed assyrtiko from northern Greece with a fine minerally finish.

**2019 Atma Xinomavro, 13 per cent** Waitrose, £9.59, down from £11.99

An old Greek friend with masses of rich, velvety, gamey black fruit and real smoky depth and elegance.

**2020 Domaine Skouras Wild Ferment Assyrtiko, 13 per cent** Majestic, £15.99 Fermented with natural yeast on its own grapes, this awesome assyrtiko has an extra lemon-zest charge.

**2019 Thymiopoulos Earth and Sky Xinomavro, 13.5 per cent** thewinesociety.com, £22 Superb Naoussa red with bold, meaty fruit; it's unfiltered and oak-aged for added oomph.

## This week's best buys



**Baron Amarillo Rioja, Spain, 12.5 per cent** Aldi, £4.49

If you've got less than a fiver for a light, zesty, oakly, red-plum skin of a non-vintage rioja, make it this one.

**2021 Taste the Difference Austrian Riesling, 12.5 per cent** Sainsbury's, £8, down from £9.50

Another gem from Markus Huber with all the sparkly, elegant, lime zest-scented fruit you'd expect.

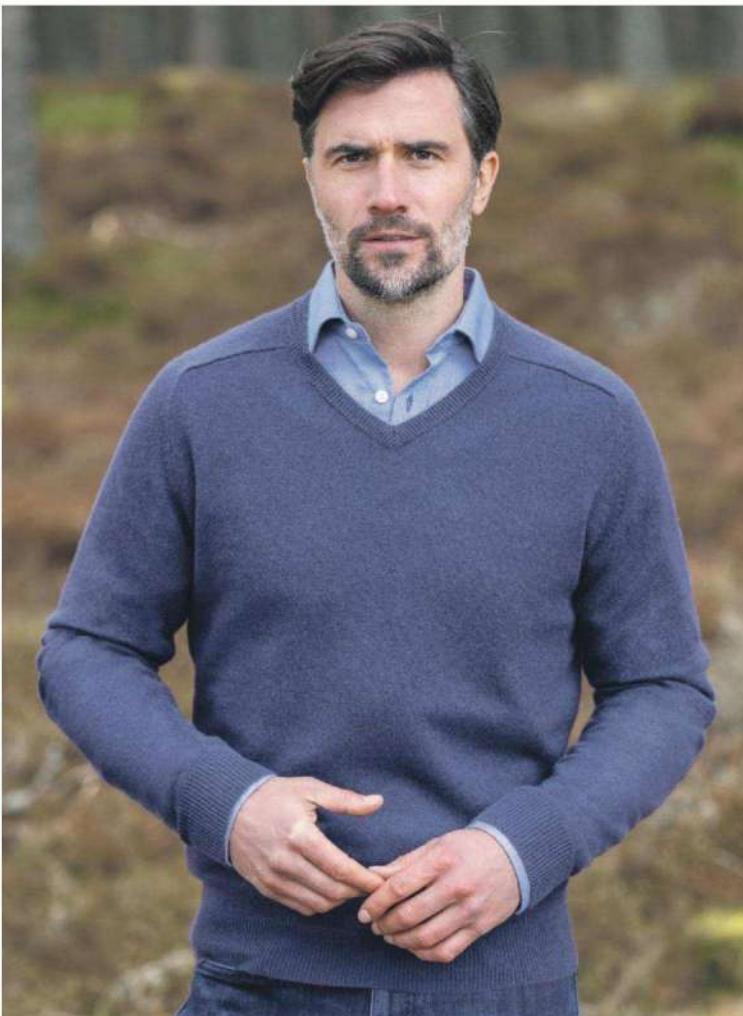
**2021 Pazo das Bruxas Albariño, Rias Baixas, Spain, 12.5 per cent** tauruswines.co.uk, £13.99

Top-drawer albariño from the Torres family and green Galicia with lashings of dry, preserved-lemon zip.

**Crémant de Bourgogne, Blanc de Blancs, France, 11.5 per cent** Waitrose, £10.99, down from £14.99

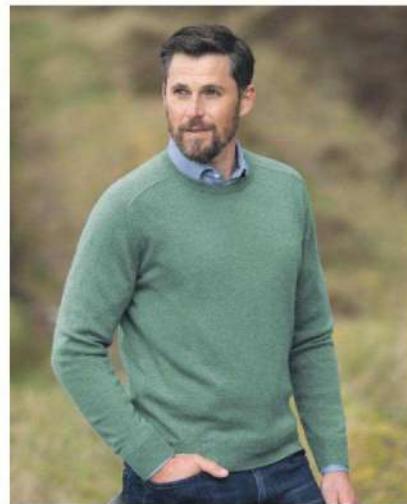
Still my favourite champagne-method crémant chardonnay, a lemon-blossom blast from the Lugny co-op.

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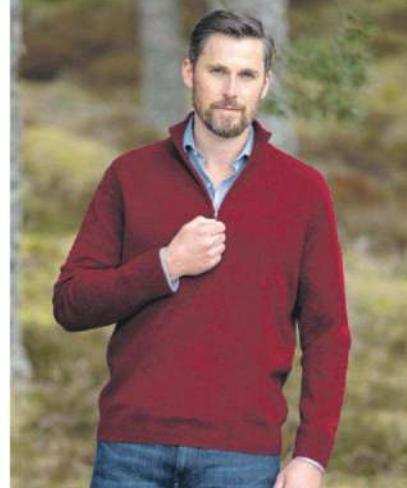


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# Outside

## The best asters to choose for dazzling autumn borders

These daisy-like flowers will fill the garden with vibrant colour right through to November.

By Joe Swift



I was a little slow coming round to asters. I think it's because one of my first gardening jobs was to remove large swathes of *Aster amellus* (commonly called the Michaelmas daisy because it's in flower around September 29). It had taken over a large border and as I dug up and caught my ungloved fingers on the short, tough stems, I clearly remember thinking to myself: "Don't plant this one." Back then for me they also had — dare I say it — granny



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## KREATIV CLINIC DISCOVER A SERIOUS ISSUE THAT UK DENTISTS HAD MISSED!

An Independent Financial Adviser from Gorleston on the Norfolk coast, Keith Parr had been subjected to oral surgery three times in the UK on his tongue because of scarring but never discovered the reason until he visited Kreativ in Budapest.



The diagnosis, which had been missed in the UK, was that Keith had bite problems which resulted in him "breaking teeth left right and centre". This was discovered when a special device to analyse a patient's bite used by Kreativ - known as Face Bow Registration - was brought into play.

Originally Keith had travelled to Budapest with his wife who also believed she needed dental treatment, however she finally given the all clear while Keith's problem was identified.

"She was asked why she had come over to Budapest which was good news, while it was different for me," recalls Keith. "And they explained that the reason I kept breaking teeth was that my teeth have a misaligned bite pattern."

"They also asked me if I had had any digestion issues, which I had, and they explained that this was because I was not chewing my food properly, again due to the bite misalignment.

"I had already been through three operations in the UK - two of which involved having six needles in my tongue yet before I went to Kreativ, no-one had identified the reason.

"I'd even been to private dentists in the UK. One offered to give me four implants for £8,800 and suggested one of those implants should have a hinge on it to go around an existing problem tooth. No one had ever mentioned the bite problem."

Keith and his wife were first prompted to go to Budapest for treatment after seeing a reference to the Kreativ clinic on a television programme. But what finally made up their mind was when they saw an advert for Kreativ in a Sunday newspaper.

It was back in 2018 that the couple originally went to Kreativ for their assessments and both were impressed from day one by both Kreativ as a centre of excellence for dental tourism - the maxillo-facial surgeon alone had done 75,000 implants - and by Budapest as a city which attracted 700,000 British tourists a year pre-pandemic.

Originally given an estimate of £14,000 for the work - which admittedly at first made Keith take a deep breath as he had not expected it to be so much as he thought he just needed a few implants - this was later reduced to £12,000 when it was identified that not all of the work was necessary.

### THREE UNNECESSARY UK OPERATIONS

### MISALIGNED BITE ISSUE IDENTIFIED BY KREATIV



Keith returned twice in 2019 for treatment - in July and December, luckily before the Covid travel restrictions were in place - and had 22 crowns, two bridges and three implants as well as root canal treatment.

He was concerned about the root canal work as he had been warned in the UK that it was painful and unlikely to succeed long term.

"But there was no pain, in fact there was no pain with any of the procedures. I was given

painkillers but I didn't need them. This is possibly due to Kreativ having a specialist for every procedure."

In between the work he had a tooth extraction done privately in UK in preparation for an implant.

Keith's last visit to Kreativ was in March this year when he went for a final check-up and partly for a holiday with his wife.



\*See website for details

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Aster amellus planted with Verbena bonariensis and Rudbeckia deamii

connotations; they felt somehow dated and were mostly seen in suburban and cottage gardens. This upstart wanted to be at the cutting edge of contemporary design.

I soon changed my mind when designers of the new perennial movement (most notably the plantsman Piet Oudolf) liberated them by drifting and weaving them in a naturalistic style alongside ornamental grasses and other late summer-flowering perennials such as sedums, salvias and rudbeckias. It was then that I saw how beautiful they were and just how valuable they are to gardeners to add late colour and bridge the gap between summer and autumn.

I love their colour palette of purple, blue, magenta pink and pure white. And I now know most garden varieties are very well behaved too, my first encounter with "the boisterous one" rare and a result of years of neglect.

When you go looking for them you probably won't find them all labelled as asters any more. Many had their Latin names changed in 2015 by botanists, so some are now *sympyotrichum*, others *eurybia*. But we can call them



Asters work well alongside grasses

### How to grow and divide asters

Most asters need moisture-retentive (dig in plenty of organic matter such as rotted manure), well-drained soil in sun or dappled shade. It's not essential but you may want to cut them back in early summer (take about a third off the top) to encourage them to bush out and produce more flowers.

A decent-sized clump can be divided in early spring. This is also a way to maintain one that has naturally died out in the middle and lost vigour, as they tend to do after a few years. Dig the clump up, chop the living part of the plant into fist-sized chunks, enrich the soil with plenty of organic matter and replant about five plants to a square metre for a nice block.

“

I love their colour palette of purple, blue, magenta pink and pure white

Page

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**'At Park Point we found a slanting rock from which to scramble down onto the shore'**

Christopher Somerville's good walk

## Joe's favourite asters



*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*  
'Purple Dome'

These are compact plants with purple petals and orange centres, and they flower from September into November. Height 60cm x spread 40cm.



*Eurybia divaricata*

A great choice for a shady border. These have small, starry, white flowers that cover the plant from about July right through to October. Height and spread 60cm.



*Symphyotrichum laeve*  
'Calliope'

These have lavender-purple flowers atop black stems and red-tinged foliage. They flower for ages, often into November. Height 1.8m x spread 40cm.



*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii*  
'Gurney Slade'

This one has rich purple-blue double flowers with bright orange centres. Height 1m x spread 50cm.



*Aster x frikartii*  
'Mönch'

This long-flowering hybrid has lavender flowers with yellow centres. It needs full sun and fertile soil to really thrive. Height 90cm x spread 40cm.



*Eurybia x herveyi*

An elegant plant smothered in blue starry flowers with deep yellow centres. Ideal for sun, dappled or partial shade. Height 1m x spread 50cm.

## Weeder's digest

It's a kindness not to go mowing drought-stalled lawns just yet. However, it's a good idea to vacuum up (with the mower set very high) any leaves that trees have shed prematurely so they don't smother the grass as it tries to recover.

Once the soil is moist again, it's possible to repair patchy lawns by scarifying and then lightly over-seeding, although care is needed to ensure those falling leaves don't smother new seedlings either.

Think about bulbs for next spring. Pots of narcissi and tulips that have been resting dry can be tipped out and cleaned of old compost and the best of them repotted. Only the biggest tulips will flower again. Narcissi are more forgiving: medium-sized bulbs usually flower well but there is no need to pack them all back into the pot; there may well be sufficient bulbs to put the smaller ones out into the ground and still fill your container.

Now's the time to plant heathers, in full light and open-textured peaty or sandy soil. Heathers looking scorched after the drought will benefit from a light 1cm mulch of finer garden compost to encourage some reviving surface root. All fine surface-rooted heather-family plants (rhododendrons, gaultherias etc) will have suffered and will benefit from a good 6cm mulch this autumn.

As hedges sprout again under new rainfall, it's tempting to think about those oh-so-convenient cordless extendable-pole hedge trimmers. If you do, it's worth trying to get a make and model that takes the same lithium battery you use in other cordless tools, because the battery will have to be stored in the house in winter – a shed is too cold. Do you want yet another battery and charger clogging up the kitchen cupboards? SA

# Elegant scarlet nasturtiums — perfect for a pop of colour

It's time to collect the seeds from your plants to grow next spring, says Stephen Anderton

**A**nyone who has grown nasturtiums as a child will never forget that curious, love-it-and-hate-it odour and collecting the seeds in September, either from the ground or ripe and ready to fall from the plant, in their funny little clusters. Poke a few into the soil next spring and up they come, or even sometimes appear by themselves.

The wonder of nasturtiums is that making seed doesn't seem to deter them from flowering, they just shed the stuff and go on producing more flowers way into autumn, in all those autumnal reds, oranges and yellows.

Oh I know, you can get creams and apricots and all sorts of subtler shades, and on dwarf plants that never stray from a pot. But for me, real nasturtiums roll like lava 2m across the edge of the veg patch, or undulate by the yard under towering autumnal rudbeckias and asters. They are dazzlers, dancers — see them covering the ground under Monet's great pergola at Giverny, pouring in from both sides until the path nearly disappears. That's nasturtiums.

Grow some, I say. Show your children somewhere this month. Throw a few improbably red flowers into your salads.

And scrounge some seed from somebody for next year.

Still, that's just ordinary nasturtiums: the easy annual nasturtium, *Tropaeolum majus*. Plantsmen with a capital P like to grow more difficult plants such as the Scotch flame flower *T. speciosum*, which is a perennial. It comes from Chile but its common name reflects the fact that it's one of those plants that do better the further north in the UK you grow them. The cooler, moister and mistier the better.

Its white tuberous roots look disturbingly like those of bindweed and they also run round (less madly) underground, throwing up wiry slender stems that drape themselves over other vegetation to a height of up to 3-4m. The classic choice of host is a dark yew hedge. The masses of small flowers are bright scarlet, followed by (a few) striking indigo berries. Everyone sees it and wants it (and so would the common nasturtium if it wasn't so darned easy to grow).

**“**The wonder of nasturtiums is that making seed doesn't seem to deter them from flowering



*Tropaeolum speciosum*

But the Scotch flame flower is a wily wee thing. It's not keen to take root south of the border, although it settles easily in Cumbria and Northumberland.

You have to tempt it further south, first with neutral to acid soil and no lime. Then it likes moisture, but still good drainage. Life can be horrendously dry under an English yew hedge, but maybe regular Scotch mist stops it being as dry under a Scottish yew hedge as it would be in Surrey.

Planting a few dug-up tubers under a yew hedge never seems to work. The best bet is to pot some up and get them growing vigorously (roots included) on a cane, before planting the potful out during the growing season and keeping it watered so the roots establish and run out into the surrounding soil. It needs a decently enriched planting hole, because the soil under an old yew hedge is always as impoverished as any soil you will find in a garden.

And those tubers, once dug up, don't last long out of the soil. Rubbery and brittle, they soon shrivel and presumably become lifeless. So your best bet is to buy an obviously living, thriving potful, or to be given live tubers in early spring that you can put up yourself.

Once it's established and those scarlet swags are festooning your hedges in August, September and October, you'll be in heaven, even if it's in the way of hedge-cutting, dammit. It's the way those swags hang — it's so elegant.

In June I visited that wonderful garden, the Old Vicarage at East Ruston, Norfolk, and was taken by a nasturtium new to me. *T. ciliatum*. It was swagging its way superbly on a wall among a fabulous 'Black and Blue' salvia 3m tall. And instead of scarlet it was a rich, deep yellow with spidery red/brown markings in the throat.

Now here was a garden in one of the driest parts of England, but it looked superb and was said to be easy, so maybe this is a nasturtium for all of us south of the border. I'd love to try it. Trouble is, those questing, brittle, ineradicable "bindweed-like" roots: apparently it runs impossibly, crazily, and we can all do without that.

## Question time

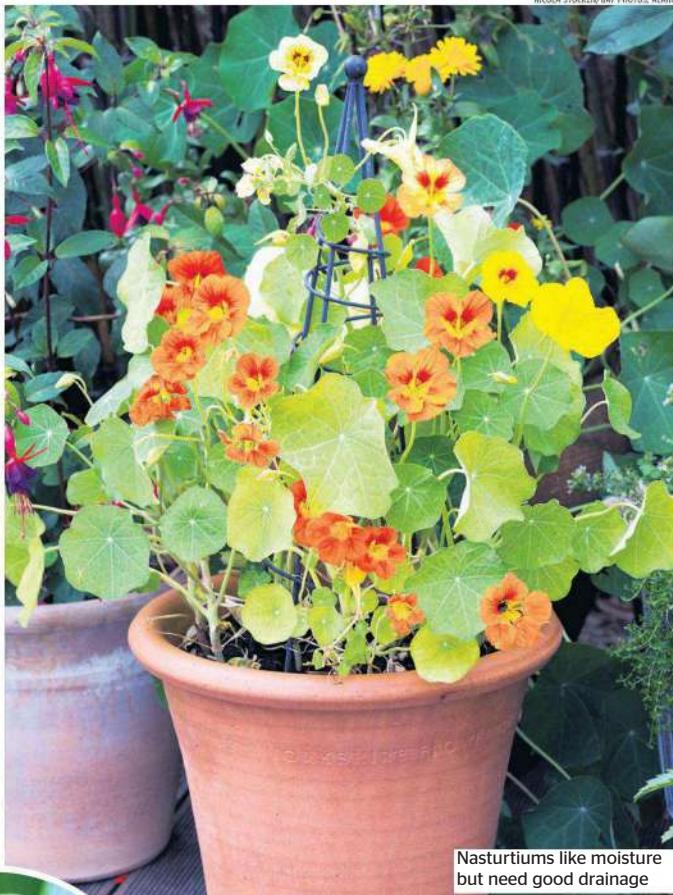
**Q** I have used peat-free compost in my pots this year because that is what we are being asked to do. But it just doesn't hold the water. Should I be mixing it with something? E Winmill

**A** Quite right. And the blackbirds fling it everywhere, for some reason. I'm not sure what the answer is. You could stick to the old loam-based John Innes types, or mix them in with your peat-free. I've been collecting molehills to add to mine. You can buy those water-retentive polymer granules to mix dry into the compost but they need using minimally. While they act as a reserve for the roots, I'm not sure they keep the actual compost fibres much more moist. I've added compost-heaps compost in my larger pots but, of course, it has weed seeds in it.

Crazy, isn't it: a few years ago, peat-frees were too soggy, now they're too dry. They are safer — things don't rot — but you do have to be diligent about watering.

**Q** You write about watering bamboo. Isn't it time gardening experts stopped promoting bamboo? There's no such thing as clump-forming bamboo and it can put up shoots several feet away and come up through floors. I have read that it's worse than Japanese knotweed. C McVay

**A** What can I do to persuade you otherwise? There are hundreds of different species, some impossibly rampant, some gently wandering, some utterly clump-forming such as fargesia, which deserve their good name. Plant the wrong one (almost always cheaper because easy to propagate) and of course there are problems. But you are correct, there is the risk of being tempted to plant a wrong 'un, perhaps some outrageously beautiful but rampant species. It is worth buying from a specialist, of which there are plenty. Send your questions to stephen.anderton@thetimes.co.uk



Nasturtiums like moisture but need good drainage

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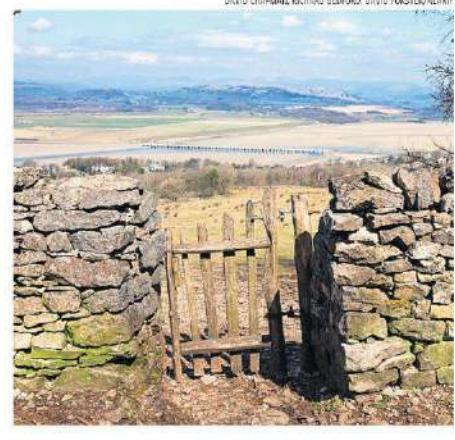


Compiled by Sidonie Wilson



► Chiminea with wood storage, £180, laredoute.co.uk

► Ivyline tall chiminea, £390, made.com



# A good walk Arnside Knott and Kent Estuary, Cumbria

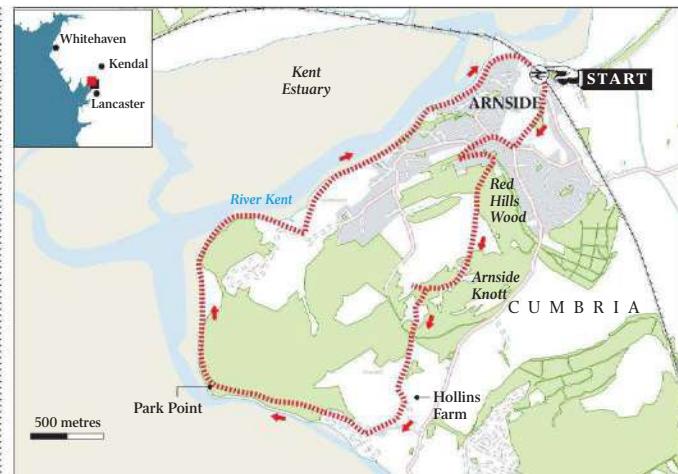
## How hard is it?

6½ miles; moderate; woodland and shore paths

**A** rich scent hung over Arnside, the smell of the sea and of new-mown hay. They were raking the fields on one side of the station, while on the other the tide was going out along the Kent Estuary towards the sandy immensities of Morecambe Bay.

We climbed up a walled lane away from the little resort town, peaceful green paths leading into Red Hills Wood. "Beautiful bluebells here in spring," confided the dog-walking lady we met on the path, "and you should just see the wild daffodils down at Far Arnside."

From the crest of Arnside Knott we got a most sensational view. Huge sprawling sands were uncovering themselves as they slid free of the sea's grey blanket, the River Kent a sinuous coil of silver, its seaward movement seen as a writhing snake among the tan and mauve sandbanks. To the north and west, beyond a green apron of marshland fringing the estuary, stood the rugged profiles of the Furness Fells and the fells of South Lakeland. The fingers of other



peninsulas reached out their long tips into the margin of the great sands.

We crossed the grassy top of Arnside Knott among juniper, yew, gorse and brambles. A solitary walker inched like an ant far below, dwarfed by the sands he was striding on. A topograph gave further clues about the peaks and ridges to the north — Helvellyn and Striding Edge, Skiddaw and Bowfell, Coniston Old Man and the westward hump of Black Combe — all these in view from the Knott's modest elevation of 522ft.

Down at Park Point we found a slanting ledge of rock from which to

scramble down onto the shore. My wife went barefoot on the ribbed sand while I clambered over the limestone rubble in boots, looking for fossils. Rounding Blackstone Point we found the outgoing Kent's channel suddenly near at hand, with a fine view up the estuary to the centipede legs of Arnside's railway viaduct.

We reached the resort in time for an ice cream with the tide still ebbing. Arnside was a busy port till the 1850s, when the building of the viaduct caused the harbour to silt up. Then tourism took over, a new source of prosperity for the little town with the mighty views.

**Arnside Knott.** Top right: The Kent Estuary and Viaduct seen from Arnside Knott. Above: a curlew

**Directions** Start Arnside railway station, Cumbria LA5 OHQ (OS ref SD 461788). **Getting there** Rail to Arnside. Bus 551 (Kirkby Lonsdale). Road: Arnside (B5282) is signed from Miltethorpe on A6 (M6, Jct 36).

**Walk** (OS Explorer OL7). From station, left along road. Pass Miltethorpe turn; in 100m, right ("Silverdale Road" fingerpost). Right at Silverdale Road (459783). In 200m, left (457784, "Arnside Knott"). In 150m, left (456784, "High Knott Road"); bend left by "Windrush"; in 250m, right (457783, "The Knott") through Red Hills Wood. Through kissing gate (456780); head uphill to bench and gate (456776). Follow main path to another bench and on, soon descending. Round sharp left bend (452772); down through gate in wall (452770). Ahead on path outside trees. At Hollins Farm, right (451766, "Far Arnside"). At road, right (450764, "Park Point"); ahead through holiday park. At Shore Close fork right ("Bridleway"); at Knott Drive fork left. Follow woodland path back to Arnside. Be aware that woodland path from holiday park is stony and stumbly; shore option is for low or falling tide.

**Low tide option** Descend to shore just north of Park Point (437769); shore path back to Arnside.

**Lunch/accommodation** Ye Olde Fighting Cocks, Arnside LA5 0HD (01524 761176, fightingcocksarnside.co.uk)

**More information** Arnside AONB Centre (01524 761034)

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**“**  
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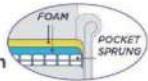
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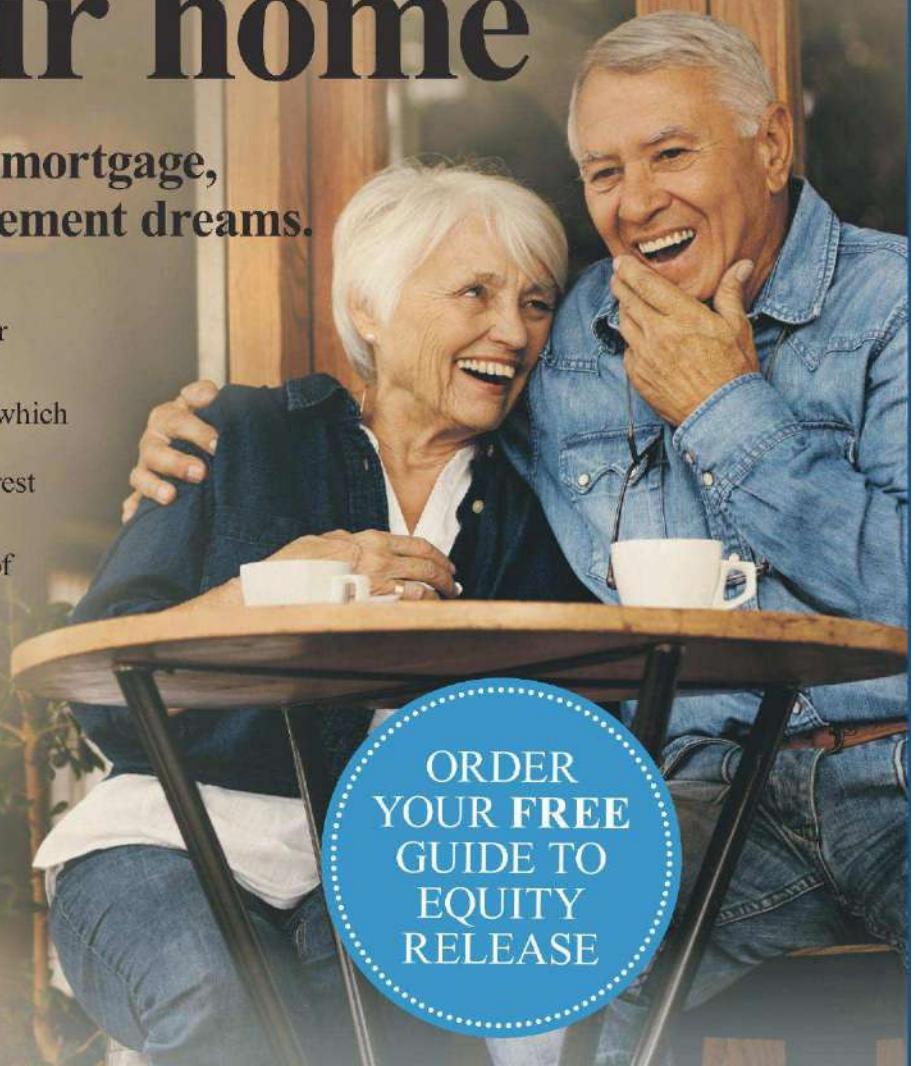
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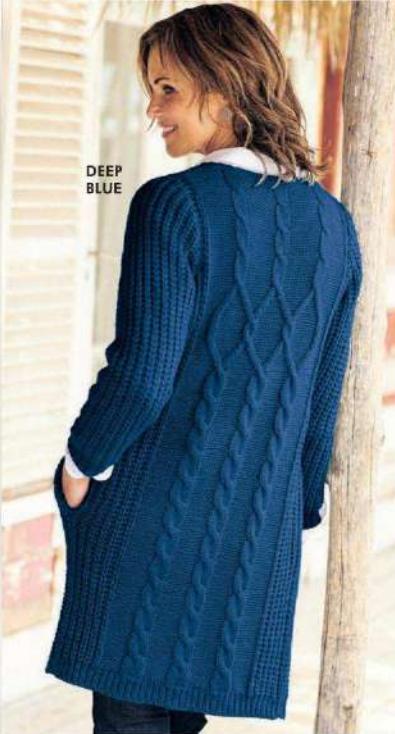
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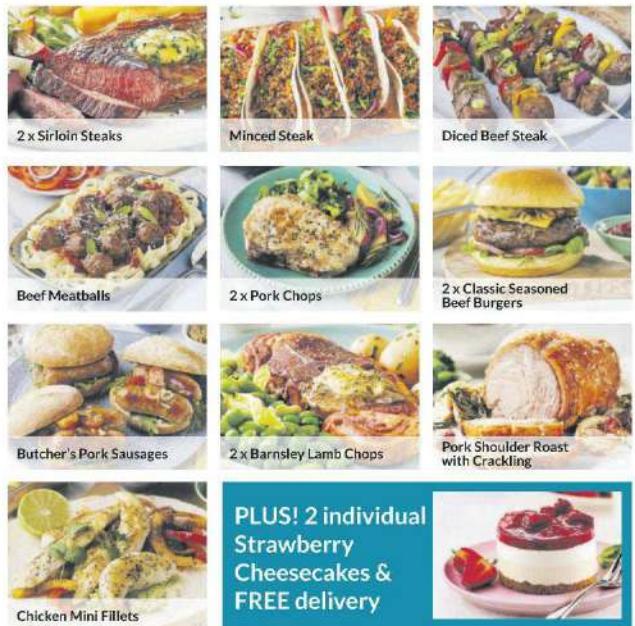
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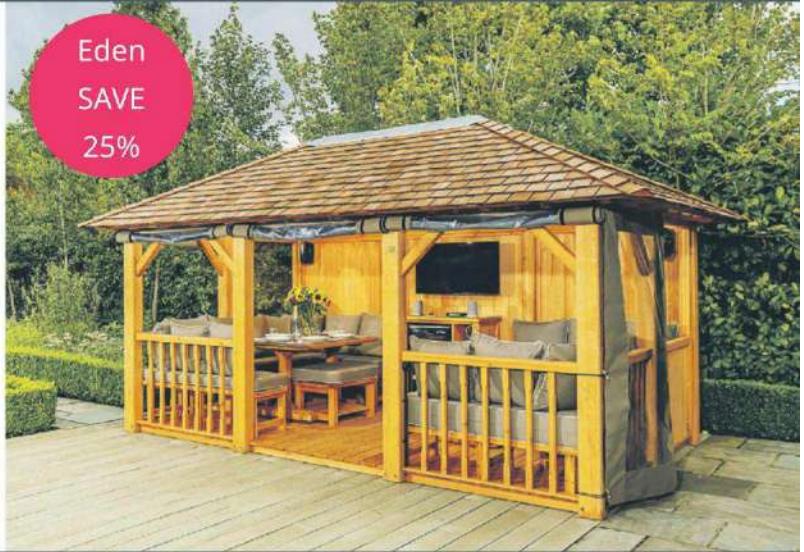
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### Cord Free Cleaning

The VAX Blade 4 cordless vacuum cleaner range is powered by the VAX ONEPWR battery, giving up to 45 minutes runtime<sup>1</sup> for cleaning carpets, hard floors, up high, down low – and everywhere in between. Combining the battery, brushless motor and innovative design, the Blade 4 range is proven to clean carpets better than the UK's top 3 best-selling cordless vacuum cleaners\*. With no cord holding you back, this cordless vacuum cleaner range also gives you the cleaning performance of the UK's best-selling corded uprights.\*\*

### Vax Technology

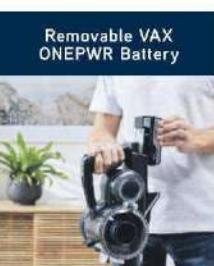
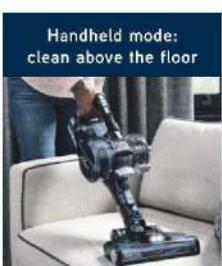
The brushless motor, controlled by Vax Core™ technology, continuously monitors and ensures optimal cleaning performance, whilst 3-stage filtration captures up to 99.8% of particles and fine dust down to 0.3 microns in size.<sup>3</sup> The dirt bin is also easily removed for simple and hygienic emptying, and with a removable brushbar and filter, maintenance of a VAX Blade 4 is made simple.

### Compact & Lightweight

Weighing just 3.1kg, it's lightweight, balanced and easy to use. It features our DustTracker headlights, leaving nowhere for dirt to hide, and with the removable ONEPWR battery, charging can be done separately with the handy charging dock.

### Upstairs, Downstairs & The Car

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## vax<sup>®</sup> BLADE 4 RANGE

Whether you need extra runtime, or you're cleaning a busy home with pets, there's a VAX ONEPWR Blade 4 for you.

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\*UK Market data Jan 2021 – Dec 2021 (by sales volume); tested in boost mode on carpet according to IEC 62885-4:2020 part 5.3. For further information email claire.milne@vax.co.uk. \*\*UK Market data Jan 2021 – Dec 2021 (by sales volume); tested in boost mode on carpets and hard floors according to IEC 62885-2:2016 parts 5.2 and 5.3. For further information email claire.milne@vax.co.uk. <sup>1</sup>Tested in standard power mode on hard floor, with floor brush switched off. <sup>2</sup>Tested according to EN60332-1-2017 Clause 5.1. <sup>3</sup>Maximum suction power, tested in boost mode according to IEC 62885-2:2016 clause 5.8. Orders before 3pm Monday-Friday, next day delivery available. Offer only while stocks last.

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Mairi25





At Kitchen Magic you'll find all the ingredients to create your dream kitchen **without** the nightmare price tag...and they can do it in as little as just one day!

**H**aving a brand-new fitted kitchen can seem like a daunting and expensive prospect, but Kitchen Magic offer a fantastic hassle-free alternative that won't break the bank or leave you living in a building site for weeks on end. A kitchen makeover rather than a complete re-fitting is the latest trend in cost saving home improvement, and it's no wonder it's become so popular! By replacing only the cupboard doors and drawer fronts and leaving your existing units in place, you can create a brand new looking kitchen without the cost, mess and upheaval that you might have imagined.

Let's be honest, most of us don't really have much scope to completely change the layout of our kitchen; we like our sink in front of the window and in general are bound by existing electrical points, pipe work and doors. So, if it works well the way it is, why change it? It's the aesthetic elements of the kitchen that tend to bear the brunt of everyday life and suffer the most wear and tear. This means that in most cases, whilst your doors and drawer fronts may be showing their age, your units more than likely

# “Upgrade your kitchen in as little as a day as if by Kitchen Magic!”

have many years of life left in them! Whether you're opting for a complete design overhaul or just sticking to what you know and love, with over 400 style and colour combinations, Kitchen Magic have a team of regionally based



Designers across the UK who are ready to work with you to create the kitchen you've always dreamed of. But it doesn't stop there; Kitchen Magic can

also replace your worktops, sinks, taps and appliances to provide those all-important finishing touches. From cost-effective yet surprisingly durable laminate countertops, to top of the range granite and marble, Kitchen Magic's vast product range caters to all tastes and budgets. If you're struggling for storage space, take a look at their range of hidden in-cupboard storage solutions to give your kitchen that extra pinch of practicality that

you've always wanted. With all items tailor made to your requirements, you needn't worry about the fit of your new cupboard doors and drawer fronts. Kitchen Magic offer a full and completely bespoke service, from the initial design visit and survey to manufacture at their Midlands base and installation by expert craftsmen. If you're looking to transform your kitchen quickly and effectively, this specialist is the one to choose. A little magic goes a long way.

“My kitchen was starting to look a little tired. Then a friend told me about Kitchen Magic. They transform your kitchen in as little as a day by replacing doors, drawer fronts and worktops quickly and without any fuss...a new looking kitchen for less than you think!”

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# Charities checklist

These organisations provide year-round support for those who need it the most. Whether it's improving the lives of humans or animals, there has never been a more pressing time to give. Please lend your generous support to one or more of these charities

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## Provide life-changing multi-sensory sessions for adults with complex needs

There is a huge gap in provision for adults with complex needs (including severe learning disability, profound and multiple learning disability, autism spectrum disorder); a gap that SFE Charity in partnership with Open Theatre, are committed to closing. With your support they will be able to do so much more.

Their sessions for people aged 18 plus provide



a rare opportunity to take part in a variety of multi-sensory and cross-arts activities, boosting communication, creativity, social skills and confidence. More than that, they know through feedback from both carers and service users that it is often the 'highlight of their week'.

For some it may be the only time they are able to be independent. For others it provides meaningful and enjoyable time to build stronger relationships with their carers.



SFE Charity need your help to continue supporting adults with complex needs, please donate now at [sfecharity.co.uk/multi-sensory](https://sfecharity.co.uk/multi-sensory)

Registered charity: 1148848.

## Fight food poverty with nutrition

The Akshaya Patra Foundation opened their first international kitchen in Watford, UK, in October 2020, with capacity to prepare fresh, nutritious



meals at scale for those struggling with food insecurity and poverty.

Since TAPF UK began serving in the UK, they have established a holiday feeding programme in Greater London and Hertfordshire to ensure children attending holiday clubs receive nutritious and tasty food whilst not in school. Working with councils, schools, and holiday clubs, TAPF UK provide up to 3,000 freshly cooked vegetarian meals per day. For many children, these might be the only hot meals they receive in a day. Please help them provide for those in need of good food, as the cost-of-living crisis puts pressure on more families this winter.



For more information or to donate please visit [tapf.org.uk](https://tapf.org.uk) or call 020 8004 8743.  
Follow [Twitter](#) @ukakshayapatra

Registered charity: 1117756.

## Making a difference to those living with dementia

Forget-me-not Chorus use the power of song to bring joy to thousands of people living with and alongside dementia across the UK every week.

Through music, the innovative charity engage, energise and empower people living with dementia, as well as those that care for them, with their trademark of excellence, empathy, and love. Anne-Marie Minhall, Classic FM Presenter and FMNC Patron, said: "The difference that this extraordinary charity make to people's lives through song is immeasurable."



To learn more about the difference your gift could make, call 02922 362064 or visit [forgetmenotchorus.com/makeadifference](https://forgetmenotchorus.com/makeadifference)

Registered Charity: 1151812.



## Plan for the future with Alzheimer's Research UK

Everyone should be regularly reviewing their wishes for what they want later in life. Which is why Alzheimer's Research UK, the UK's leading dementia research charity, have developed an information pack to help you make plans for the future. It contains four factsheets designed to answer some common questions about Wills, Inheritance Tax, Lasting Powers of Attorney and planning for future care. So knowing that wishes and plans have been organised will, hopefully, help give peace of mind.

Visit [alzres.uk/plan-for-the-future](https://alzres.uk/plan-for-the-future) or call 01223 896606 for more.

Registered charity number: 1077089.



## Leave a gift in your Will and help fund the research of tomorrow

Cancer Research Wales is the only charity wholly dedicated to funding cancer research in Wales for Wales. It's estimated that 20,000 people across Wales are diagnosed with cancer every year<sup>1</sup>, and 175 families lose a loved one every week<sup>2</sup>. Research has never been more important.

By leaving a gift in your Will you can support the best researchers, clinicians and health professionals to push the boundaries of cancer research discoveries in Wales. You can help improve the ways in which cancer is diagnosed, make sure people don't have to accept cancer as a life-threatening disease, and give hope to the next generation.



Find out how to write your Will for free, and how a gift in your Will could unite Wales against cancer by calling 02921 855050, emailing [contact-us@cancerresearchwales.org.uk](mailto:contact-us@cancerresearchwales.org.uk), or visiting [cancerresearch.wales/get-involved/gifts-in-wills](https://cancerresearch.wales/get-involved/gifts-in-wills)

1. Cancer Incidence in Wales (Public Health Wales, 2019) 2. Cancer mortality in Wales (Public Health Wales, 2021)

## Helping people to help themselves



Pecan are a small charity helping people to get back on their feet. They know that this winter it is going to be tough for many people who struggle to pay for some of life's basics. They do not believe in just providing a handout; their passion is to empower people to be in control of their lives. Whether it is through support with food, wellbeing, community engagement or employment advice, they always look to inspire human dignity by holistically addressing issues they are facing.

This empowering approach enables people to have hope in their situation, by allowing them to plan a way forward that they believe is possible and will lead to independence.



Your support this winter will help them to meet the needs of the people most affected by the energy crisis and rising costs in the community. To support Pecan, donate at [pecan.org.uk/donate](https://pecan.org.uk/donate)

Registered charity: 801819.



## Local and global – lasting change

Unequal availability of water is a hugely complex issue, in both its causes and effects. Frank Water's sustainable, small-scale work is combatting drought and food shortages.

Currently working in India and Nepal, Frank Water empower remote village communities to take ownership of their water systems. Working alongside villagers and within realistic limits, Frank Water build climate change resilience and improve access to safe water, sanitation, hygiene, agriculture and biodiversity by looking at the water system as a whole.

Frank Water are leading the way with how they work. They're sharing unique methodologies and technologies, and influencing policy within governments. And they're strengthening local systems, ensuring safe water and health for generations to come.



Frank Water are helping people and the planet to thrive.

Support them today for a better tomorrow. Donate now at [frankwater.com/donate](https://frankwater.com/donate)

Registered charity: 1121273.

## ADVERTISEMENT

### Help Stella's Voice make a difference

Stella's Voice have worked in Eastern Europe since the fall of the Berlin Wall – helping to protect some of the world's most vulnerable children and young people. They do this by providing a place of safety and shelter for those who have none. They remove the vulnerability by giving them a place to call home, putting clothes on their backs and food in their bellies. They assist them through education and onward into productive lives free from the dangers of trafficking and any other exploitation.

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February this year they have also been helping refugees – those who have fled Ukraine into Moldova (where their base of operation is located) and taking aid into Ukraine, helping those affected by the war.

It has been heart breaking to see mothers and children who have fled for their lives, many leaving behind husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. With little or not much more than what they have on their person, they have found themselves in desperate need with no means of survival without help.

Winter is coming. Cold weather, harsh, bitter winds and often no place to shelter due to the destruction of their homes. They need help more than ever. By scanning the QR code or visiting their website, you will be able to donate securely online via any smartphone, tablet or computer.

For further information scan the QR code, visit [stellasvoice.org.uk](http://stellasvoice.org.uk) or call 0300 303 2520.



### Pakistan Flood Appeal

International Learning Movement (ILM) are a UK-registered charity, dedicated to supporting the world's most deprived communities. They tackle poverty at its root, by improving access to education and providing opportunities to vendors and beneficiaries in creating a better quality of life.

The unprecedented floods in Pakistan have caused devastation across the country leaving 33 million people in need of immediate and urgent help<sup>1</sup>. Over 1 million homes have been destroyed and thousands of buildings damaged<sup>2</sup>. The water is carrying life-threatening diseases with little or no access to hospitals or medical facilities.

Children are suffering and dying; over 3 million children have lost their parents, leaving them orphaned and alone as they suffer and die.

The people primarily affected were already the most vulnerable in society. They have lost



Donate today at [ilmuk.org](http://ilmuk.org) and follow [@ilmkcharity](https://www.facebook.com/ilmkcharity)

Registered charity: 1102313. 1. Pakistan's disastrous floods uproot refugees and citizens (UNHCR, 2022). 2. Pakistan: More than 6.4 million in 'dire need' after unprecedented floods (UN News, 2022).

### Your legacy? Securing a better future for birds and the natural world

Thousands of dedicated citizen scientists, like you, have been working with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) to monitor the UK's ever-changing bird populations since 1933, enabling them to raise the alarm when worrying declines become evident and helping to identify solutions. After remembering loved ones, supporting the BTO with a gift in your Will can help them to inspire and empower the next generation of birdwatchers and secure the future of birds and nature.



### Enabling potential in children with neurodisabilities

Babies who acquire brain injuries at birth can be left with life-changing disabilities that mean they may not be able to play, speak or walk. Conditions like cerebral palsy can take away a child's independence, reduce their ability to access education, and can turn parents into 24-hour carers, nurses and physios.

A staggering 1,800 children are born with cerebral palsy each year – it's the most common form of childhood disability<sup>1</sup>.

Donate today to help fund intensive specialist therapy, education and support for the children and young people Pace work with.

Help parents be parents, knowing their child will get intensive therapy every day at school. Help children with neurodisabilities receive the education and support they need to reach their full potential in life. With your support, children with neurodisabilities can take their place in the world.

**Donate at [thepacecentre.org/appeal](http://thepacecentre.org/appeal)**

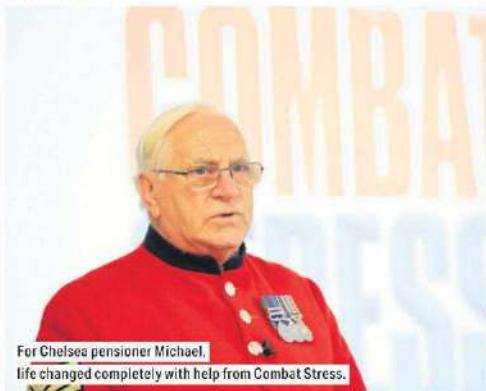
1. Strategy and Impact Report 2022-2027 (Action Cerebral Palsy, 2022)



### Combat Stress saves lives

Combat Stress are the veterans' mental health charity, founded in 1919. The team are often told by the veterans they help that the charity has saved their life. Their specialist mental health treatment can be life changing and often lifesaving.

Many veterans hit rock bottom before seeking their help. These veterans rely on Combat Stress and the charity relies on donations from kind people like you.



For Chelsea pensioner Michael, life changed completely with help from Combat Stress.

For a chat about how gifts in Wills help fund one in five of the veterans they treat, or to find out more about writing your Will for free, please contact Sarah Seddon on 01372 587144 or email [sarah.seddon@combatstress.org.uk](mailto:sarah.seddon@combatstress.org.uk)

Registered charity: 206002

### GUTS – fighting bowel cancer for 40 years



It's nearly 40 years since GUTS set up the first mass-screening programme for bowel cancer in the UK, providing a model for the national screening programme that eventually followed in 2006.

Bowel cancer still claims the lives of 46 people every day in the UK<sup>1</sup>, and screening remains the best way of detecting it at an early, treatable stage. GUTS work to improve bowel cancer survival through better screening, treatment and care, funding research projects that offer immediate and practical ways to improve early detection and outcomes for people who are living with bowel cancer.

This has only been possible thanks to public support, so please donate now and help GUTS in their mission.

**Find out more about the charity's work and make a donation at [gutsfbc.co.uk](http://gutsfbc.co.uk) or call 01483 408316.**

Registered charity: 1026791. 1. Bowel cancer statistics (Cancer Research UK, 2022)

If you do decide to remember the BTO in your Will, you will be giving an invaluable gift; helping safeguard birds and their environment for future generations to enjoy.

Contact Samantha Rider on [legacies@bto.org](mailto:legacies@bto.org) or call 01842 750050. Find out more at [bto.org/legacy](http://bto.org/legacy)

Registered Charity: 216652 (England and Wales), SC036193 (Scotland)



# Homes, Garden and Interiors checklist

Here's a variety of ideas for the home or garden – whether they're to make better use of living space or for the family living in that space, these should fire up the imagination

Read more online! Visit [checklists.co.uk](http://checklists.co.uk) and follow [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) @checklistsocial

## Rethink what a home lift can be

Futureproofing has never looked this good. Savaria's luxury glass home lift offers stunning panoramic views and makes a bold style statement while opening up your home to be fully accessible today and tomorrow.

Vuelift's crystal-clear glass lift shaft and cabin introduce sweeping, elegant lines and let natural light flow through your space. Powder-coated steel frames create a striking accent, making the elevator a subtle focal point in the home. It's a contrast to other home mobility solutions, which seldom combine style and functionality with Vuelift's adroit grace.

While the results are sophisticated, the installation process is surprisingly streamlined. Thanks to Vuelift's integrated shaft and all-in-one mechanics, the lift can easily be placed in the middle of the room, against a wall, or at the centre of a spiral staircase. Vuelift offers ultimate flexibility with fully customisable door and floor configurations across up to six levels, and is easily incorporated in existing properties or new-build designs.

Available in sleek round, bold octagonal, or compact mini models, there's a Vuelift to suit every home. All metal components of the Vuelift are finished with a durable powder-coat in your choice of hundreds of colour options to blend flawlessly into your existing décor, or make a statement with bold new hues.

Find out more at [vuelift.co.uk](http://vuelift.co.uk) and enquire on 0800 910 0459 or [vueliftuk@savaria.com](mailto:vueliftuk@savaria.com)



 **savaria**

## Keep your treasured cashmere safe from moth damage this season

To stay luxurious, cashmere needs special care. Moths thrive on cashmere. They drastically change beautiful clothing into holey, unwearable pieces destined to be discarded. Using plastic bags causes moisture to accumulate and mould fungus to spread. Hanging pieces in the cupboard also exposes them to moth attacks. Protect your best clothing this year with an embroidered Cashmere Protection Pouch.

Made of breathable cotton, it is the perfect way to keep cashmere in pristine condition. Proven effective and environmentally friendly, they are the easiest way to make sure luxury warmth is here to stay. Order the ultimate in cashmere care today. View discounts and cashmere care advice at The Cashmere Choice.



2022 

 **The Cashmere Choice**  
Shop for London's Finest Cashmere

Visit the website at [cashmerechoice.co.uk](http://cashmerechoice.co.uk) or call 020 7836 3725.

## Use an NICF master fitter

If you're planning on some new flooring in your home, whether it's carpet, luxury vinyl tile (LVT), sheet vinyl or wood, you are strongly advised to use a National Institute of Carpet and Floorlayers (NICF) master fitter. They are skilled tradesmen who have the best installer skills and experience, and who have successfully completed an advanced level of assessment of their work. So, ensure an NICF master fitter supplies and installs the products for your next floor laying job.

Search for your nearest master fitter on the NICF website at [nicfltd.org.uk/nicf-directory](http://nicfltd.org.uk/nicf-directory)



## Storm strength from Shetland



The Polycrub® is a polytunnel greenhouse hybrid designed and proven to withstand the rigours of the Shetland climate. The 'Polycrub' concept began as a community project for the Northmavine Community Development Company (NCDC), in Northmavine, Shetland in 2007. Folk in Northmavine were keen to reduce food miles and grow more fresh produce locally. They couldn't find a growing space that would stand up to the harsh Shetland weather, so they developed their own.

Climate Challenge Fund funding meant that the community was able to build 12 community polytunnels in Northmavine. Once the community growing project was complete, it attracted lots of interest from other community

groups and individuals who were interested in buying the product. NCDC set up the social enterprise and the Polycrub was born. Polycrubs are sold in kit form as far away as France and the Falklands. All profits from the social enterprise are used for the benefit of the local community.

The Polycrub range includes a variety of lengths up to 12 metres:

- Polycrub Classic – four metres wide
- Polycrub Peerie Polly – three metres wide
- Polycrub Oypl – ideal as a general purpose shed, or for livestock or poultry.

These sturdy growing areas are perfect for individual growers, schools or community groups, or even a place to enjoy the hot tub, or a G&T.

Visit [polycrub.co.uk](http://polycrub.co.uk) to find out more.



## Intelligent renewable energy

Is your home future proof?  
Are you concerned about  
energy prices? Are you  
worried about your home's  
carbon emissions?

You could install a Heliomotion ground mounted solar tracking system yourself in less than a couple of days, and if you move, you can take it with you.

This is Heliomotion – *Build It Magazine*'s best home technology award winner, designed and manufactured in Finland and the UK, made from top-grade steel and aluminium. Unlike roof-based solar panel installation, solar tracking systems follow the sun from sunrise to sunset every day and because of this they generate significantly more electricity than a static ground mounted or roof mounted Solar PV installation.

They are ground mounted using either a custom steel plate and ground anchors, or using a concrete plinth. Ground anchors are a far more eco-friendly solution and can be installed in less than an hour. There are four different sizes, and they can be used singly or in multiples, either on or off grid. Pop one in a sunny corner of your garden and watch your bills go down.



### Benefits:

- Complete solar energy solution
- Straightforward installation
- Produce your own electricity
- Premium quality.

You can talk to the team at Bee Solar Tech about installing multiple systems, solar panels, inverters and your future battery storage requirements.

To find out more  
about their solar  
solutions, please visit  
[beesolartech.co.uk](http://beesolartech.co.uk)



## Help local birdlife thrive this autumn

CJ Wildlife are a team of wildlife experts with 35 years' experience working in biodiversity, both in the UK and Europe. They are on a mission to help promote biodiversity on your doorstep, and to provide innovative solutions to create wildlife habitats no matter how big or small your garden. They're a team of nature lovers at heart, so they really love what they do.



[Visit \*birdfood.co.uk\* for more ways you can turn your garden into a wildlife haven.](http://birdfood.co.uk)

## Moving to the next level

Woodside Joinery

Woodside Joinery are a long-standing family business that specialise in the creation of high-quality bespoke staircases.

For over 40 years, they have designed, handcrafted and fitted bespoke stairs across the UK. They combine knowledge, skill and passion to create staircases that are not only functional, but become a statement piece and focal point of the home.

When deciding on a staircase the options are endless, and their designers will work with you to create the perfect staircase to complement your own individuality and your home.

Staircase styles can be divided into seven basic categories: Closed String, Cut String, Open Rise, Spine, Bolzen, Cantilever and Spiral. Whether curved, straight or winding, all their staircase designs fit into one of these seven categories, and they can help you navigate the countless possibilities to design and deliver the perfect staircase for your home.



Get in touch to begin your staircase journey. Visit [woodsidejoinery.com](http://woodsidejoinery.com) to find out more.

## Tap into free hot water from your resin bound driveway

Capture and store free solar energy from your driveway surface to generate hot water for your home, with the innovative Addagrip EcoHeat resin bound paving system. The permeable natural aggregate surfacing contains patented pipework linked to an air source heat pump to harness heat from the air. Energy can be stored in a thermal battery and used for heating the home, providing free hot water when you need it.



## The perfect gift for every occasion



An ideal present that will last forever – hand-painted and crafted in Devon, these delightful wooden side tables are fun pieces of furniture to rest your drinks on. Standing 38" high, their sturdy trays are 25" above ground – an ideal height to place your favourite tipple when resting on your sofa after a hard day in the garden.

Perfect for that birthday, wedding, anniversary or retirement present.

Jockeys can be painted in your own silks, soldiers in the livery of your chosen regiment and footballers or rugby players in colours of your favourite team.

- Allow 14 days for delivery
- No assembly required
- Order early for Christmas.

To see 50 more models and to order, visit [kentchurchbutlers.co.uk](http://kentchurchbutlers.co.uk) or telephone Roger on 07774 959561 for that personal touch.

**KENTCHURCH BUTLERS**

## Charming huts and off-grid hideaways from Dart Valley Bespoke



DART  
VALLEY  
BESPOKE

Whether you want to earn extra income from a holiday let or simply want a peaceful garden retreat, Dart Valley Bespoke work with you to make your ideas a reality. Handcrafted to order in their Devon workshop, each hut is unique, and they have unlimited uses from luxury living accommodation to garden offices or even yoga spaces. Dart Valley Bespoke are experts in combining traditional shepherds hut styling with modern, proven construction methods to provide their clients with a characterful, practical space which will stand the test of time.

The clue is in the name. Dart Valley Bespoke are open to any of your design ideas. If you can dream it, they can build it.



To find out more and see what else they offer, visit the website at [dartvalleybespoke.co.uk](http://dartvalleybespoke.co.uk)

## Cabinetry designed to maintain its integrity for years to come is at the heart of true sustainability



**EASTBURN**

For Yorkshire-based cabinet makers, Eastburn, craftsmanship and sustainability are inseparable. Their sustainable ethos is simple – handmade 100% solid-wood cabinetry, made to any size, painted in any colour, and built to last.

From their showroom and workshops, in what was a Victorian textile mill, Eastburn pair good old-fashioned craftsmanship with contemporary design, and most importantly, sustainability of materials. With full control at every stage of the process, they use timber only from European FSC-certified sustainable sources, and water-based, eco-friendly, paint finishes from their UK manufacturer.

For 30 years, their approach has continued to create timeless kitchens, handmade to withstand a lifetime of hard work. Their showroom is an eclectic mix of vintage furniture, one-off finds, and bespoke cabinetry.

Eastburn design and install bespoke cabinetry nationwide, visit [eastburn.co.uk](http://eastburn.co.uk) to find out more.

**addagrip**  
A member of the Terracotta Group

**ecoHEAT**  
SURFACES

To find out more about this innovative paving system, visit [addagrip.co.uk](http://addagrip.co.uk), email [sales@addagrip.co.uk](mailto:sales@addagrip.co.uk) or call 01825 761333 to speak to a member of the team.



# Financial and Legal checklist

Money: whether you are spending it, saving it or speculating with it, it makes sense not only to exercise prudence but also to protect you and your family's interests with robust legal advice

Read more online! Visit [checklists.co.uk](http://checklists.co.uk) and follow [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) @checklistsocial

## Is your investment portfolio robust enough?

Established in 2009, Bleyer Bullion, based in picturesque North Devon, have helped many UK and international individuals reduce their overall investment risk. By demystifying bullion ownership, through education and support, precious metal possession has become more easily accessible for everyone.

On your journey with Bleyer, you will discover that they are more than just a competitively priced online shop. They boast a genuine interest in nurturing long-term relationships with their customers, whom they regard as a community of individuals that take responsibility for their own financial wealth. Bleyer freely offer news, webinars and a friendly ear to support investors, as they navigate the precious metal options available.

Using primarily physical gold and silver coins and bars, everyone has the opportunity to hedge against inflation, property collapse and stock market exposure. Bullion is becoming more prominent for diversification within a mixed private investment portfolio. Uncertain times have driven the desire for individuals to control their own financial future. Bullion is no longer the sole domain of large corporations, governments and the super-rich.



Bleyer are proud recipients of the Feefo Platinum Trusted Service Award 2022. Feefo's independent reviews provide unbiased insight on customer experience with this company.

Whatever your budget, their dedicated, friendly team are available during office hours to help you tailor your strategy in making the right product choices to meet your investment needs.

**Scan the QR code for more online information. Visit [bleyerbullion.co.uk](http://bleyerbullion.co.uk), email [sales@bleyer.co.uk](mailto:sales@bleyer.co.uk) or call 01769 618618 to find out more.**



## A liquid substitute to market bubbles

Fine wine and rare whisky offer a fresh addition to any investment portfolio – as they are less likely to lose value during market turbulence. This has been highlighted most recently by The Knight Frank Luxury Investment Index, which published the 2022 edition of the property firm's Wealth Report. It found that fine wine and rare whisky were among the most rewarding among luxury investments in 2021.

Robert Whipple, director of sales at London Barrelhouse, says: "With stable and solid performance of both wine and whisky we are seeing investors flocking to us, seeking to diversify their wealth and move away from the more traditional asset classes that have徒 turned in recent times."

Whiskies from the finest distilleries in the world have increased in value by a staggering 580% since 2008 and notable expressions have risen over 40% in the previous 12 months alone, including the Macallan Archival Series Folio 1. The distillery has built a global reputation for creating astonishing single malts, with the value of many other limited-edition releases skyrocketing over the last decade – and it is their first releases that command the very highest prices. Wine and champagne are also shown to be an excellent partner for whisky collectors, with a huge 147% rise in value during the same timeframe.



Peter Charalambous, co-founder of London Barrelhouse, adds: "These assets help investors to diversify, hedge, and do undoubtedly provide a tax-efficient safe haven."

**LONDON BARRELHOUSE  
FINE WINE & RARE WHISKY**

Visit [londonbarrelhouse.com](http://londonbarrelhouse.com) to find out more or call 020 4518 1333.

## Secure your assets now with a free Will



Writing a Will is an essential task for anyone who wants to protect their assets. You can create your own Will online in 10 minutes. This gives you peace of mind for the rest of your life, all while avoiding costly solicitor fees, and an expert team are on hand to ensure there are no legal errors. Wills.services produce thousands of wills every month and every will is legally checked. Wills.Services are offering a free basic single to readers with code FREE22.

**Start the process now by visiting [wills.services/free22](http://wills.services/free22)**



## Now is the time to buy private medical insurance

Private Healthcare, or Private Medical Insurance (PMI) is an insurance plan that typically covers the cost of accessing diagnosis and treatment for eligible conditions in private hospitals or wards, with a choice of specialist.

Buying through your business can make substantial saving on premium, whilst providing you with the opportunity to offer a top-class benefit to your employees.

The pressure on the NHS is overwhelming, the current waiting list for surgery is estimated at 5.5 million<sup>1</sup> so there has never been a more valuable time to consider Private Health Care.

### Benefits of PMI

The benefits of PMI include digital GP services, prompt referrals, fast admissions, family cover, private hospitals, access mental health services and more.

### Tailor your plan

All PMI policies have a core cover which can be enhanced depending on your needs, including out-patient cover limits, therapies cover, mental health cover, dental and optical, and travel

cover. You can tailor your plan further with services including hospital list selection, consult and select, policy excess, and underwriting type.

### PMI providers

PMI offer market-leading providers and a wide range of hospital lists. All of their providers are DEFAGTO five-star rated and between them have 65% of the market. They provide peace of mind with an insurer you can trust. They will approach all three markets for quotes to give you a fair and comparable quote for your needs.



**TURNER RAWLINSON**

**Call their specialist on 020 8208 7091, email [barry@turnerrawlinson.co.uk](mailto:barry@turnerrawlinson.co.uk) or visit [turnerrawlinson.co.uk](http://turnerrawlinson.co.uk) to find out more.**

FCA reference 301393. 1 NHS backlog data analysis (British Medical Association, 2022).

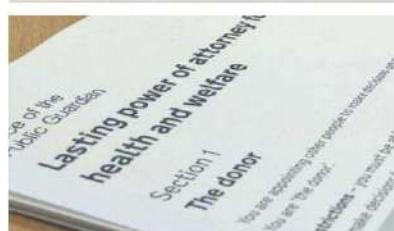
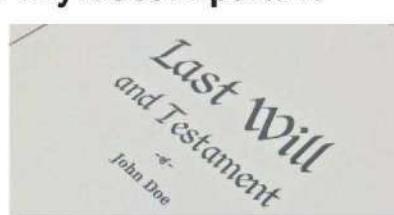
## Estate planning – discover why it's so important



Did you know around two thirds of the UK adult population do not have a valid Will? That is the figure according to recent studies conducted by YouGov. If you do not have a Will, the rules of intestacy

will decide what happens to your estate, and this may not be what you would have wanted. The Society of Will Writers also recommend Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs) so you can appoint someone you trust to make decisions on your behalf if you lose capacity.

Having a Will and LPAs makes for a robust estate plan, so whether you need to make or review an existing estate plan, you should speak to a fully trained and insured member of The Society of Will Writers to receive professional advice.



**Contact the office on 01522 687888 or visit [willwriters.com](http://willwriters.com) to find a member in your area.**

## There's never been a better time to buy your dream timepiece

**TDB**  
THE DIAMOND BOX

In recent years, it has become clear that luxury watches are not just a fashion choice. Many high-end timepieces hold strong investment value and have historically proved to retain the amount paid for them. Sometimes they become more valuable over time, often significantly. So, in line with similar asset classes, now is the perfect time to buy a valuable watch while market prices are at a low\*.

### A timeless investment

The Diamond Box are a family-run business with over 40 years of experience in the industry. Proud of their extensive knowledge in the watch and jewellery sector, the team are fully verified and provide a hugely personal experience, offering unrivalled expertise across all the major luxury watch brands, Rolex, Cartier, Audemars Piguet and more.

So, whether you are looking to sell your watch or invest in a fast-appreciating timepiece, The Diamond Box will ensure you get the best deal possible.



## Responsible investing – a sustainable approach to wealth

Investors have the power to drive change in the world. Today, with a growing awareness of the social, environmental, and ethical impact of their buying and investing decisions, and in the context of climate change and resource scarcity, this idea has begun to shape the investment landscape.

Sustainable and responsible investing are increasingly popular investment approaches, but ones fraught with increasingly confusing choices.

In the past, responsible investing has been seen as niche and suffered a poor reputation. However, as the range of approaches have evolved over the past decade, asset and fund managers have adapted their investment processes to incorporate responsible and sustainability themes. They do this at, what is quite often, no additional cost to investors, and in a manner which makes clear funds' aims, objectives and outcomes. Additionally, over recent years there is a body of proof which shows that investors can have both principles and profits\*.

AV Trinity is a firm of independent Chartered Financial Planners, with expertise in responsible and sustainable investing. Based in Tunbridge Wells, they help individuals, professionals, and businesses across South East England.

Visit [avtrinity.com](http://avtrinity.com), call 01892 612500 or email [info@avtrinity.com](mailto:info@avtrinity.com)  
An initial meeting is on them.

\*Do Sustainable Funds Beat their Rivals? (Morningstar, 2020) FCA reference: 182032. As with all investing, your capital is at risk. The value of investments can go down as well as up, and you may get back less than you invest.



## Specialist financial fraud lawyers

Financial fraud and scams have not only increased in recent months, but are ever more sophisticated, resulting in devastating losses for the victim. Giambrone & Partners have over 15 years of experience in assisting clients to recover money lost to fraudsters.

Joanna Bailey, who heads the banking and financial fraud team, says: "Novice investors are lured into Forex and investment frauds by a range of well-practised deceptive techniques that target inexperienced individuals. The resulting losses are often retrievable in certain circumstances."



To advertise with Financial & Legal Checklist, please call Hurst Media Company on 0203 478 6017



### Sparkling service

Founded on the principles of great service, trust, and honesty, the team will ensure your absolute customer satisfaction. This dedication to service is supported by their fully equipped on-site workshop, that can provide bespoke designs, laser welding, polishing, servicing, sizing and repairs.

### Rated 'Excellent' on Trustpilot

Bill Riley, who gave 5/5 stars, reviewed: "They have fantastic pieces and are very knowledgeable so it's always a pleasure looking around and learning about the quality of the diamonds and items. We have become regular customers and will continue to come back."

**Whether you are buying or selling luxury watches, gold or diamond set jewellery – get in touch on 020 4538 2476 or WhatsApp on 07775 566888.**

**Order online at [thediamondbox.co.uk](http://thediamondbox.co.uk) or head along to the shop at 114 Ballards Lane, Finchley, London, N3 2DN.**

\*Please remember that value can go down as well as up, and that past performance is by no means a guide to future performance.

## Why fine wine is now a highly desirable asset

Savvy investors understand that fine wine can be remarkably effective at preserving capital and generating real returns. As a niche market, it can be an intelligent way to diversify an investor's portfolio and protect it from volatility. A leading innovator in the fine wine investment sector, are the London-based Oeno Group, fine wine merchants with expertise in active portfolio management and an impeccably credentialled wine sourcing team. Oeno offer access to their extensive network of top restaurant and hotel clients (Oeno Trade) and luxury central London boutique (Oeno House), which provide profitable liquidation pathways for investors' mature wines.



**OENO**  
THE FINE WINE MERCHANT

Visit [oenogroup.com](http://oenogroup.com) and follow @oeno\_official to find out more.  
Email [info@oenogroup.com](mailto:info@oenogroup.com) or call 020 7846 3366.

Investment value can go down as well as up and you may get back less than you put in. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.



## Help protect the future of the Armed Forces family with a gift in your Will

**ssafa** the Armed Forces charity

SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity, have been providing practical, emotional and financial support to Forces personnel, veterans and their families since 1885. By leaving a gift in your Will, you will help them continue to support the Armed Forces family in times of need.

They understand that you'll want to take care of your family first. But anything you do wish to leave to SSAFA will make a huge difference to the lives of those who need them most. They are truly grateful for any gift left to them.



SSAFA helps tens of thousands of people every year, and the issues that they are coming to them with are getting more and more complex. A gift in your Will can help SSAFA meet this need and plan for the future.

This extraordinary kind of support will help them carry on offering life-changing help to everyone who needs it – for as long as they need it. Right now, gifts left in Wills make up as much as one third of SSAFA's fundraising income. It's no exaggeration to say they absolutely rely on the generosity of those supporters who choose to leave a legacy gift.

They can make things easier for you thanks to their partnerships with two free Will-writing services, and help you make a real difference to the lives of those serving, those who have served, and their families.

Find out how a gift in your Will can help protect the Armed Forces family for generations to come.

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14 nights from £1,929\*

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- Discover phenomenal live music
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- Relax at beautiful golden beaches

### The Great Ocean Road, Australia

14 nights from £1,829\*

Flights, 3 nights hotels, 11 nights motorhome hire and 3 breakfasts

- Enjoy the café culture of Melbourne's legendary laneways • Bask in the iconic scenery of the Great Ocean Road
- Spot penguins on Phillip Island

### Classic California, USA

11 nights from £2,199\*

Direct flights, 10 days fully inclusive car hire, 3★ to 4★ hotels and 4 breakfasts

- Follow iconic Highway 1
- Discover vibrant cities • Relax on the golden sands of Santa Barbara
- Visit historic Hearst Castle just outside of Cambria



### Amazing Mauritius

14 nights from £1,449\*

Direct flights, 4★+ beach resort, breakfasts and private transfers

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Saving over £400 per couple

### New Zealand's Kiwis, Hobbits & Whales

16 nights from £2,229\*

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- Soak up the atmosphere in lively Queenstown • Visit Kiwis in a wildlife sanctuary in Rotorua

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20 nights from £3,199\*

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# Travel

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**'This alluring, mainly untamed dot is surrounded by 14 other paradise isles'**

Susan d'Arcy chills out at a Caribbean wellness retreat

Belmond Rio Sagrado, Peru



## 25 hiking trips with stylish stays

Tackling the world's great walking routes doesn't have to mean roughing it. Sarah Baxter knows the best luxury rest-stops along the way

**E**ven now, when I think of "a hiker" my brain flicks to Charles Hawtrey in *Carry on Camping* — a dork in short shorts, long socks and a sensible anorak, dwarfed by a monstrous rucksack dangling pots and pans. But the trend for "soft" hiking grows — now it's even cool.

There's a greater array of options for those who prefer more refined rambling: walking holidays that have been put together with expert knowledge and are steeped in local character, stopping at gorgeous hotels, serving the finest food and taking as much effort as you desire out of seeing a place on foot.

"There's increased demand from guests wanting to make their walking

holidays more luxurious," says Fiona Marshall of Macs Adventure, which runs self-guided walking holidays worldwide. "So we are looking to expand our holidays that use spa hotels, converted manor houses and boutique hideaways, with more time built in to relax at these properties and more of a gastronomic focus."

There's no reason why a good walk shouldn't come with good food and wine, and maybe a clawfoot bath and a massage too. After all, this is a holiday. Indeed, the plusher hiking trips here are designed to be gentle, encompassing leisurely to moderate trails on easy terrain, with plenty of

interest and cafés en route. But there are also challenging trips — chains of lovely lodges in the Andes and Himalayas, for instance, make rugged routes a more comfortable prospect.

And you can forget lugging that monstrous pack. Any high-end hike will include luggage transfers, so you can pack a selection of cocktail dresses for those post-walk drinks or a library of novels for when you're soaking in the hot tub, but still walk light, making it more enjoyable to dally and detour. And what's more luxurious than that?



The Dolomites

25 great breaks next page

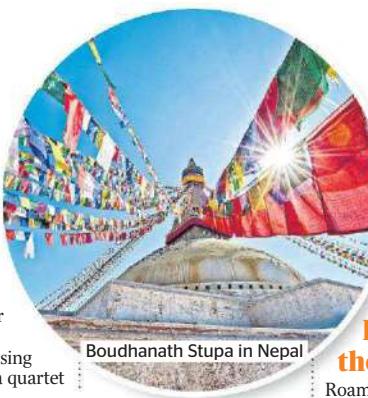
**Crete** Greece

The adults-only Arosmari Village Hotel, in the White Mountains foothills, is a sanctuary of stone cottages scattered amid fragrant roses, jasmine and olive trees. It's an idyllic place to soak up Cretan life. It's also the base for some of Simpson Travel's new culture-packed walking trips, led by the mountain guide and island specialist Jonathan Peat. Slow-paced daily hikes visit craggy gorges, citrus groves, hermit's caves, wildflower meadows, mountain monasteries and tavernas, with plenty of downtime by the pool factored in.

**Details** Seven nights' B&B from £1,322pp, including flights and transfers, departing on April 4 and 18 ([simpsontravel.com](http://simpsontravel.com))

**Dolomites** Italy

Want a quick hit of hard hiking in unabashed luxury? Rosa Alpina's 4 Peaks short break will do the trick. This gorgeous hotel in the Dolomites is a fine launchpad for attempting the fabled four-peak challenge: a 15-mile circuit, amassing 2,000m of climbing, to conquer a quartet



Boudhanath Stupa in Nepal

of Alta Badia summits. The package includes a day of training with a personal guide before embarking on the challenge. Spa treatments and hearty dinners are also included to help you to recuperate.

**Details** Three nights' full board from £2,728pp, including transfers ([rosalpina.it](http://rosalpina.it)). Fly or take the train to Innsbruck

**Highlands to the Lakes**

Roam five national parks in five-star style, hassle-free. Wilderness Scotland's small-group trip eases the complicated logistics of combining the Cairngorms, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, Northumberland, the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District in one go. The best digs are sorted for you, from well-loved inns to grand lakeside hotels. So are the best moderate-grade walks, including sections of Hadrian's Wall and the peak Walter Scott reckoned offered Scotland's finest view. There's time for cheese tasting, whisky sipping and steamer rides too.

**Details** Nine nights' full board from £2,585pp ([wildernessscotland.com](http://wildernessscotland.com)). Train to Aviemore

**Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset**

A good way to ensure your hike is high end is to enlist local experts. The Foot Trails team live in Wiltshire and know all the West Country's top routes; their self-guided Ancient Wessex Kingdom trip takes lesser-used trails to wend across the sylvan, history-rich folds of Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset. Kitted out with maps, nature guides, tips and snacks, you'll stroll via abandoned villages, castles, Iron Age hillforts and delightful inns, staying two nights at each and exploring at an unhurried pace.

**Details** Eight nights' B&B from £1,230pp ([foottrails.co.uk](http://foottrails.co.uk)). Train to Warminster

**Dordogne** France

Your first night on the Carter Company's self-guided Dawdling in the Dordogne trip is spent at 14th-century Château de la Treyne near Souillac, enjoying a Michelin-starred dinner overlooking the river. That pretty much sets the tone for this opulent, easy-paced amble through the Dordogne and Vézère valleys, via more magical castles and outstanding hotels, chestnut forests, rock-art daubed caves, markets overflowing with truffles, cheeses and fine wines, and a bevy of villages on France's official "most beautiful" list.

**Details** Seven nights' B&B from £2,635pp, including transfers ([the-carter-company.com](http://the-carter-company.com)). Fly or take the train to Bordeaux

**Galicia** Spain

Not all pilgrimages mean privation. Utracks's self-guided Camino: Pilgrims and Paradors trip covers the final hundred-odd miles of the Camino Frances to Santiago de Compostela (enough to earn you a compostela certificate). But, rather than basic albergues, it uses historic hotels, including former monasteries and castles steeped in history. For instance, stay in a 17th-century palace in Monforte de Lemos and the exquisite Hostal dos Reis Católicos in Santiago, right next to the cathedral, which has been accommodating pilgrims since 1499.

**Details** Nine nights' half-board from £1,490pp, including transfers ([utracks.com](http://utracks.com)). Fly to Santiago

Schloss Elmau, Germany

**British Columbia** Canada

Make your exertions high end by cutting away the fat: CMH's heli-hiking trips whizz you directly into the most pristine of Canadian mountain realms, where guides lead treks via little-explored meadows, glaciers and ridges. There are options for all abilities; simply pick from "wander", "roam", "explore" or "adventure". Accommodation is at the deluxe, log-hewn Bugaboos Lodge, only accessible by air. Here you'll find gourmet food, a wine cellar, sauna and rooftop hot tub looking out to the peaks.

**Details** Three nights' full board from £2,515pp, including transfers ([cmhsummer.com](http://cmhsummer.com)). Fly to Calgary

**Lycian Coast** Turkey

Access the highlights of one of the world's best walks in the most idyllic of ways. Peter Sommer's Walking and Cruising Western Lycia small-group trip explores Turkey's Lycian Way by gulet sailing boat. Unpack in your comfortable cabin, be plied with fresh-cooked feasts, swim in sparkling seas and disembark for walks to the most interesting spots — including from the village of Ucagiz to the Ottoman castle at Kale, along the Roman aqueduct to the ruins of Patara and into Butterfly Valley.

**Details** Seven nights' full board from £2,550pp, departing on September 25, or £2,750pp, departing on May 14 ([petersommer.com](http://petersommer.com)). Fly to Dalaman

**Abruzzo** Italy

High end isn't all about Egyptian cotton sheets. What makes Rewilding Europe Travel's Wild Heart of Italy small-group

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The sun is shining over a group of children playing in the water at a beach. The water is a vibrant turquoise color. In the background, there are palm trees and a clear blue sky. The overall atmosphere is bright and sunny.



trip stand out is the exclusiveness of the experience. Walk into three national parks in the Apennines with expert guides for an immersion in projects that are connecting people with nature for the benefit of both. It's a cultural and natural journey; community visits, local dinners and nights in characterful albergos accompany hikes on which — with luck — you might spot chamois, griffon vultures, wolves and rare Marsican brown bears.

**Details** Seven nights' half-board from £1,895pp, including transfers ([rewildingeuropetravel.com](http://rewildingeuropetravel.com)). Fly to Rome

### Ausangate Peru

Looming southeast of Cusco, 6,372m Ausangate is a sacred peak, and hiking here is a special privilege. Jacada Travel's Machu Picchu & Ausangate trip includes a five-day trek around its flanks. This is challenging, high-altitude, literally breathtaking hiking, but with no need to rough it. While every day brings a new perspective on the peak's lakes, rainbow vistas and alpaca herds, every night brings a different ecodge where comfortable rooms, home-cooked food, music and amazing views await. The rest of the tour can be tailored to include luxury mountain lodges such as the Belmond Rio Sagrado in the Sacred Valley.

**Details** Fourteen nights from £6,052pp, including most meals and transfers ([jacadatravel.com](http://jacadatravel.com)). Fly to Lima

### Corsica France

The GR20 across Corsica is often dubbed Europe's toughest trek. But Hedonistic Hiking's small-group Island of Corsica trip (which begins with a ferry

crossing from neighbouring Sardinia) takes a more leisurely and luxurious path, combining a snippet of the route and other rugged trails around the île de Beauté with charming hotels — from hillside Capo Rosso, with its pool overlooking the sea, to the smart Hotel Dominique Colonna in Restonica gorge. Refuelling is key too, with gourmet picnics and dinners showcasing local specialities from sheep cheeses to wild boar stews and Corsican wines.

**Details** Seven nights' full board from £2,898pp, departing on June 8 ([hedonisticchiking.com](http://hedonisticchiking.com)). Fly to Olbia

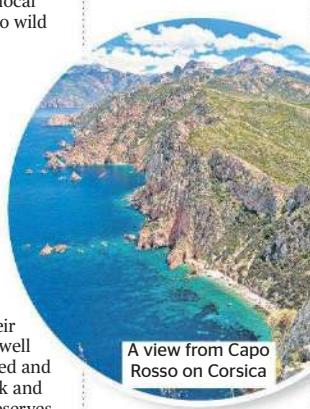
### Catalonia Spain

New this year, Macs Adventure's self-guided moderate-grade Catalan Coast and Mountains in Style trip is one of the company's growing range of treks designed to allow travellers more time to enjoy their characterful accommodation as well as the walks. The scenery is varied and spectacular, encompassing Greek and Roman sites, bird-busy nature reserves, wave-crashed cliffs and Salvador Dalí's favourite hangouts. Nights are spent in a selection of boutique hotels, from a restored 12th-century convent to a converted palace with a rooftop pool.

**Details** Seven nights' B&B from £1,990pp, including transfers ([macsadventure.com](http://macsadventure.com)). Fly to Girona

### South Luangwa Zambia

South Luangwa National Park is the birthplace of the walking safari, and remains one of the best places to see



A view from Capo Rosso on Corsica

Hikers in Graubünden, Switzerland



ArosMari Village Hotel in Crete

African wildlife on foot. Expert Africa's quintessential Robin Pope Walking Safari explores the more remote reaches of the Zambian park, far from areas where game drives take place. In a small group (no more than six people) led by the most knowledgeable and well-trained guides, you'll hike between simple but comfortable mobile camps, looking out for lion, zebra, wildebeest and more, totally immersed in the bush.

**Details** Seven nights' full board from £6,010pp, including transfers ([expertafrica.com](http://expertafrica.com)). Fly to Lusaka

### Senja Norway

On Discover the World's Norway Drive and Hike on Senja Island self-drive tour, you can amble this Arctic outpost at your own pace. The island is like a lesser-known Lofoten, with plunging fjords, jagged peaks, Caribbean-coloured seas and beautiful bolt holes, such as the historic fishing-station-turned-hotel Hamn i Senja and the old rectory guesthouse on the uninhabited island of Tranoya. These make atmospheric starting points for a varied menu of jaw-dropping walks.

**Details** Seven nights' B&B from £988pp, including car hire ([discovertheworld.com](http://discovertheworld.com)). Fly to Tromso

### Graubünden Switzerland

Davos and Klosters, best known for their superlative skiing, are Switzerland at its most swanky. But, of course, the area's high-end offering is available in summer too. Sample it on Private Selection's self-guided Klosters to

Lenzerheide Hiking in the Grisons trip. Days are filled with well-marked trails, towering peaks, rippling Alpine meadows and generous picnics. Nights are spent at stylish wellness hotels where you can soothe your aches in mountain-view spas before sitting down to multi-course gourmet meals.

**Details** Four nights' full board from £1,025pp, departing until October 9 and from June to October 2023 ([private-selection.ch](http://private-selection.ch)). Fly or take the train to Zurich

### Annapurna Nepal

Not so long ago, trekkers bound for the Nepalese Himalayas had to make do with tents or teahouses — atmospheric, but simple. However, since the opening of a string of four lodges in the Annapurna foothills, the region now caters for those seeking en suites, hot showers and a little more style. The mountains are as magnificent as ever, and this moderate-level lodge-to-lodge route from the Ultimate Travel Company reveals them in all their glory; you'll also encounter traditional villages, yak herders and warm Gurkha hospitality.

**Details** Eleven nights' full board from £2,300pp, including flights and transfers ([theultimatetravelcompany.co.uk](http://theultimatetravelcompany.co.uk))

### Bavaria Germany

The formidable style and location of Schloss Elmau, high in the Bavarian Alps, hasn't gone unnoticed — the five-star resort hosted the G7 this June. However, those political bigwigs didn't get to make the most of the myriad hiking possibilities on its doorstep — there are 70-odd peaks within reach, ►

# 46 Travel

► as well as routes around the small lake of Ferchensee and up to King Ludwig II's mountain retreat. Head out alone or join one of the thrice-weekly group treks. Afterwards, book a table at Luce d'Oro for a two-Michelin-starred feed. **Details** B&B doubles from £527 (schloss-elmau.de). Fly or take the train to Innsbruck

## Douro Portugal

Everything feels top class on Exodus's small-group Portugal: Walking & Wine Premium Adventure. First, the trip is led by the award-winning Porto-born naturalist and oenophile Madalena Patacho, who helps visitors to get under the skin of the dramatic Douro Valley. Second, accommodation is deluxe, including a stay at the five-star Douro Scala Hotel, right among the vines. Third, as well as wonderful walking via villages, riverbanks and grape-lined terraces, there are stops at the best cellars to taste delicious wines. **Details** Seven nights' B&B from £2,349pp, including flights and transfers, departing on October 15 (exodus.co.uk)

## Paro Bhutan

Closed since March 2020, Como Uma Paro finally reopens this September, once again allowing high-end hikers to combine this Himalayan kingdom's pristine, culture-rich mountains with luxurious stays. The hillside retreat, with its exquisite Bhutanese craftsmanship, outstanding restaurant and world-class spa, is base camp for day hikes out amid dzongs (fortified monasteries), prayer flags and snow-capped summits. Though perhaps even more magical is the one night spent at a private wilderness camp, far from anyone, with matchless Himalayan views.

**Details** Five nights' full board from £2,933pp, including transfers (comohotels.com). Fly to Paro

## Zagori Greece

The hiking in Greece's Zagori region is some of the best you'll find, with trails running through two national parks, the peaks of the Pindos, old villages and plunging ravines. According to Sunvil, Aristi Mountain Resort is the place to be based; handsomely built from local stone, it's the only option with a spa and heated indoor pool. Strike out alone or join guided excursions through Vikos Gorge (one of the world's deepest), around Drakolimni's alpine lakes and to the region's iconic stone-arched bridges.

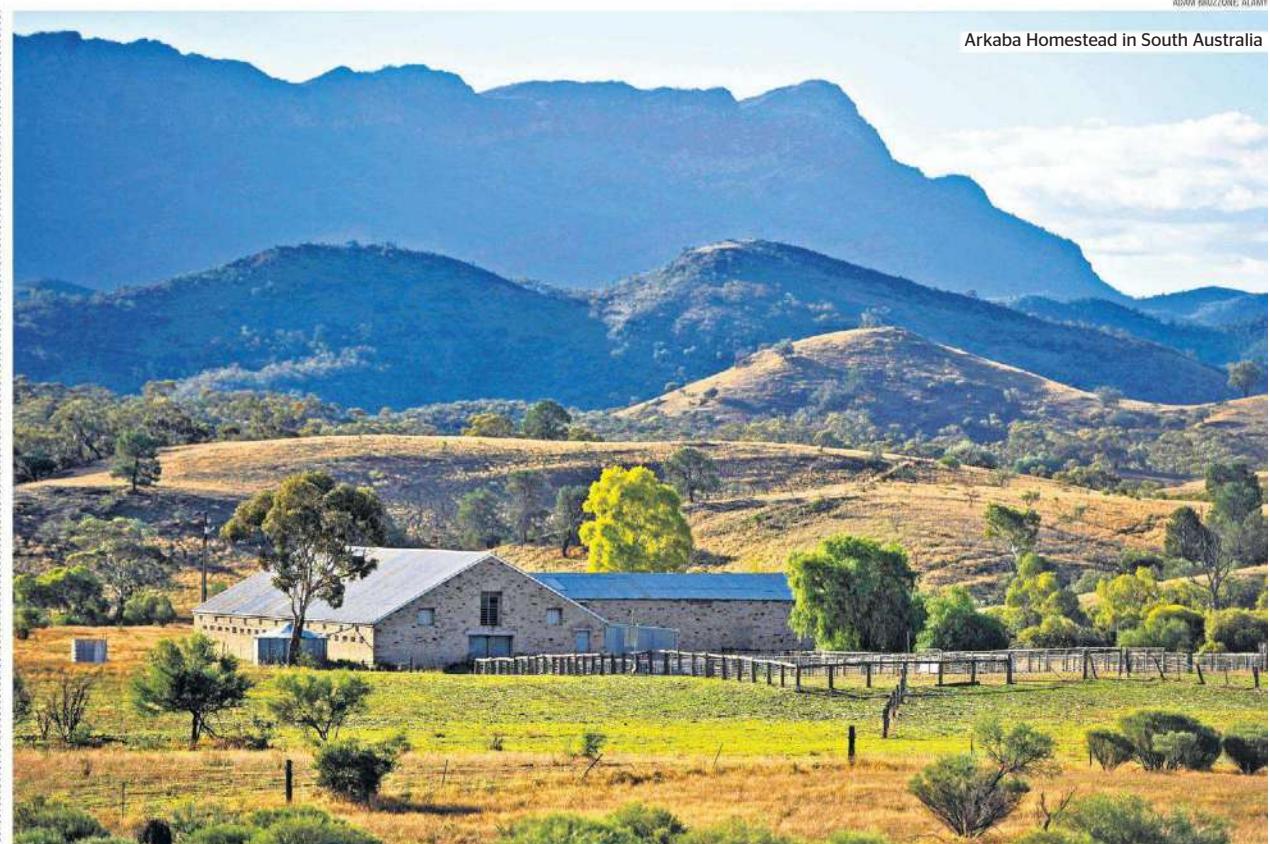
**Details** Seven nights' B&B from £1,298pp, including flights and car hire (sunvil.co.uk)

## High Atlas Morocco

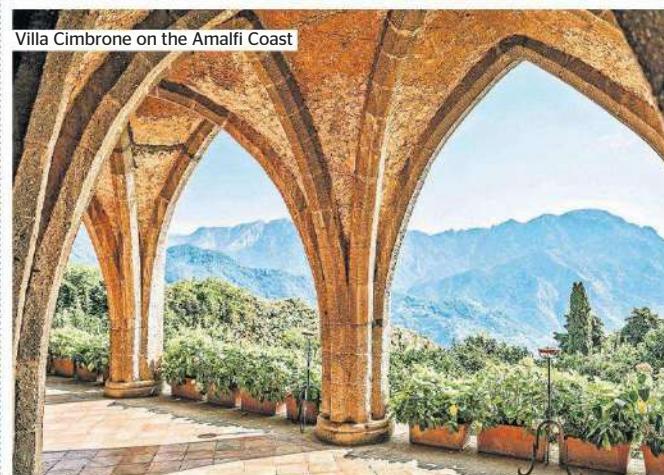
The eco-luxury Kasbah du Toubkal has long been a top choice for high-end hikers wanting to explore the Atlas Mountains. It still is, but Millis Potter Travel's new self-guided Morocco trip looks further afield too. It starts with a trek through the little-visited Ourigane Valley (staying at lovely Domaine Malika), before continuing to remote Azzaden Lodge and then on to Kasbah du Toubkal itself, before driving into the Ourika Valley where more fascinating hikes can be done from the chic, Berber-style Kasbah Bab Ourika. **Details** Nine nights' full board from £1,650pp, including transfers (millispotter.com). Fly to Marrakesh

## Amalfi Coast Italy

The Amalfi Coast radiates opulence at every turn, and the walking amid its



ARKABA HOMESTEAD IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



VILLA CIMBRONE ON THE AMALFI COAST



ARISTI MOUNTAIN RESORT, GREECE

Med-side mountains is top class. However, it's possible to further up the ante. "We can access many upgrade hotels that aren't necessarily shown on our website, so it's always worth asking," says Heather Bamber of On Foot Holidays. Its standard Amalfi to Sorrento self-guided trip — with the gardens of Villa Cimbrone in Ravello among the stops — uses lovely accommodation, but possible upgrades en route include Positano's classy Palazzo Murat or Praiano's Grand Hotel Tritone, where every room has sea views.

**Details** Seven nights' B&B from £1,100pp (onfootholidays.co.uk). Fly to Naples

## Tyrol Austria

The Tyrolean village of Pertisau sits in perfect hiking territory. A temptation of trails leads from here, around the long lake of Achensee, through the valleys and atop the ridges, with



COME UMA PARO, BHUTAN

excellent buses, boats and cable cars enabling wider access. Inntravel's Lake Achensee & its Mountains self-guided trip uses the Hotel Wiesenhof as a base for a week of wonderful walks. This superior family-run retreat dates from the 18th century, but now has a state-of-the-art spa, a fine restaurant serving seasonal, local produce and rooms with breathtaking lake or mountain views.

**Details** Seven nights' half-board from £1,195pp (inntravel.co.uk). Fly or take the train to Innsbruck

## Istria Croatia

Istria is made for hikers who like the finer things in life. This is a peninsula of Renaissance palaces, Venetian castles and the glittering Adriatic Riviera. It also has delicacies in abundance, from just-caught fish to truffles and local wines. Headwater's easy-moderate self-guided Castles

to Coast Walk keeps the bar high with a spread of super stays: a converted 17th-century palace in Motovun, a stylish townhouse within Buzet's Venetian battlements and a waterfront retreat by Opatija's classy promenade.

**Details** Seven nights' B&B from £1,439pp (headwater.co.uk). Fly to Pula

## Flinders Ranges Australia

There's camping involved in the Arkaba Walk, but don't be deterred — this really is five-star. And that's not just in terms of the trail — a privileged journey into a vast sheep station "in South Australia turned private wildlife conservancy, rich in wildlife and ancient geology — but also in terms of the service, food, wines, guiding, accommodation at Arkaba Homestead (a Luxury Lodge of Australia) and even the swag camping, in which you sleep on raised decks in utmost comfort under an incredible canopy of stars.

**Details** Three nights' full board from £1,716pp (arkabawalk.com). Fly to Adelaide



### Ultra All Inclusive Abu Dhabi

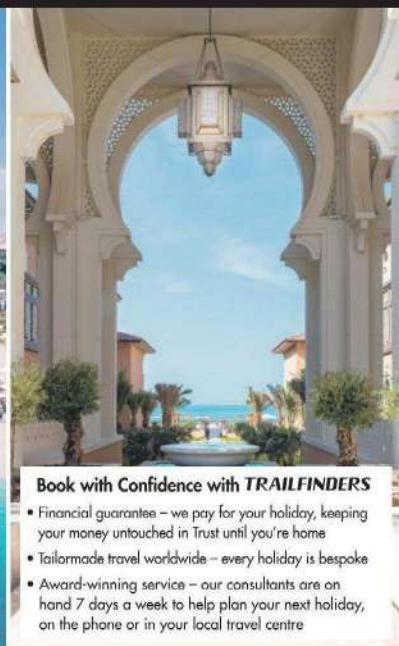
Bossting a spectacular location on the shores of Saadiyat Island, this luxurious and palatial resort features traditional Arabic architecture, impeccable service and sumptuous accommodation. With plenty of activities available and a superb choice of dining options, this fabulous all inclusive resort is the ideal retreat for couples and families alike.



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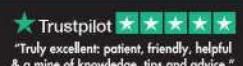
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# Luxury Caribbean

## The hot new retreat on its own island

This British Virgin Islands resort has a unique approach to barefoot wellness, finds Susan d'Arcy

**I**ast week I trained with a former sergeant in the Green Berets, America's answer to the SAS. I got the best-ever healthy cookie recipe from a bodybuilder who went from sleeping in her car when she was 21 to speaking at the UN on being a force for good at 27. I was stood up by Richard Branson. I ate like a horse and lost 2kg.

If it was a memorable few days for me, for Britnie Turner, the aforementioned bodybuilder, it was fairly standard, nothing-to-see-here stuff. Now 34 she is the millionaire owner of the Aerial, the eco-minded private-island resort in the British Virgin Islands where I was staying. Necker, Branson's Caribbean home, is nearby and the two are friends. The Virgin boss was

due to visit during my stay and, said Turner, was "super excited" to meet me, but had to cancel last minute. What can I say? Frankly I'm bored with billionaires wanting to be my friend. But even the colourful Sir Richard seems a tad monochrome when compared with Turner.

Her life story reads like a Hollywood script. As we sat on the Aerial's wrap-around sunset deck, watching the red sky darken over the Caribbean, Turner flicked back her long curly hair and told me how as a 12-year-old — the second of six children in a "dirt-poor" South Carolina family — she had a dream that she would become a missionary in Africa. She needed cash to turn this prophecy into reality, so aged 21, shortly after winning the Miss North Carolina beauty contest, she moved to



Nashville to learn about the real-estate business, specifically how to flip houses.

It was an unpaid apprenticeship — hence sleeping in her car — but after nine months she had absorbed the intel necessary to set out on her own. And she was flipping good. By 2016 Forbes had listed



MALDIVES

# Step into paradise

A new range of tropical resorts in the Maldives uses local knowhow to offer stylish luxury that is surprisingly affordable, discovers Shilpa Ganatra

**P**ostcard-perfect beaches, vibrant coral reefs and famed overwater villas: no wonder the Maldives is seen as the ultimate dream holiday. And Sun Siyam Resorts, renowned for affordable luxury, puts this dream within easy reach.

This Maldivian company leverages its regional knowhow to offer exceptional luxury and authentic local culture. Step from the seaplane into an all-inclusive tropical paradise and discover an island

retreat where the décor is plush, the bubbly flows freely and a wide range of activities prove as tempting as the soft, white sand.

Just five Sun Siyam resorts are dotted around the archipelago, each ideal for a different type of holiday. The five-star Sun Siyam Iru Veli is perfect for honeymooners and couples who desire only peace, tranquillity and each other. Each spacious suite comes with a private pool overlooking the crystal-clear waters, so you'll barely need to leave

your splendid isolation. But you will be spoilt for choice if you do. For a start, it's just a 20-minute *dhow* boat ride to the resort's organic farm island of Lohi, to enjoy a lunch where the vegetables have been plucked from the surrounding land and the fish is fresh from the sea.

Sun Siyam Iru Fushi is ideal for both families and foodies. It's home to more than a dozen top-class bars and restaurants, including Flavours — an award-winning French restaurant and cellar — and a refined champagne bar. Meanwhile, the whole family can enjoy social swimming-pool areas, mini golf, karaoke or the Nemo Garden underwater park.

As a homegrown company, Sun Siyam naturally champions Maldivian culture and community across its

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Best at Travel sells holidays to all five Sun Siyam Resorts in the Maldives. Prices at Sun Siyam Iru Veli start from £3,555 pp on Premium All-Inclusive based on two adults sharing a Beach Suite with Pool. A family of four with two children can stay at Sun Siyam Iru Fushi during May half-term on Half Board in a Deluxe Beach Villa from £7,915 and at Sun Siyam World in a Sunset Pool Beach Villa on Premium All-Inclusive from £8,999 departing July 29, 2023. All packages are seven nights and include flights and transfers. Call Best at Travel on 020 3131 7429 or visit [bestatravel.co.uk](http://bestatravel.co.uk)

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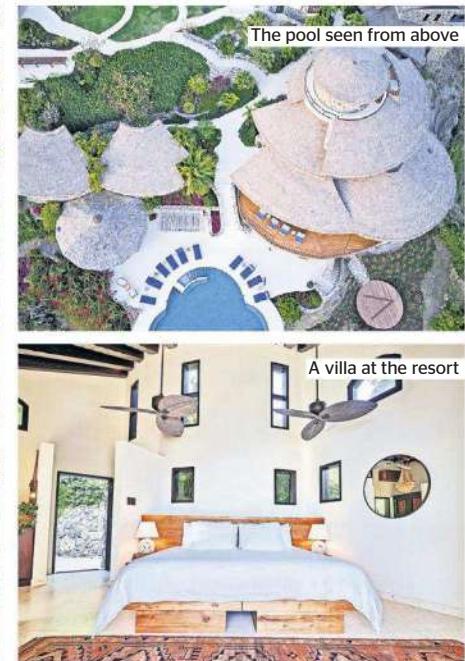
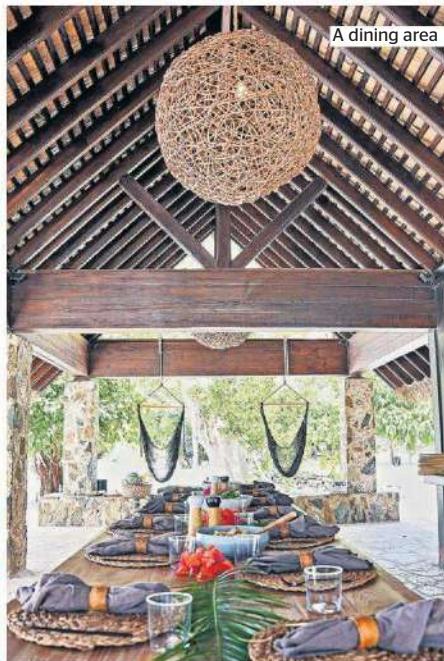
Local luxe: clockwise from left, Siyam World Water Pavilion; spa time at Iru Fushi; Grand Suite bathroom at Iru Veli



resorts. At Iru Fushi, you're invited to help children at a village school practice their English. Or, if you've space in your luggage, any school supplies you want to donate will go to a good home.

You'll also get a slice of Maldivian life at Siyam World: as soon as you step off the jetty, you'll see the *gaadiya* cart serving fresh and traditional snacks. It's the newest, most fun-filled resort with a wide range of activities and classes, not to mention a horse ranch and huge floating water park. Siyam World is expansive enough to cater for couples and solo holidaymakers as much as it is for families or large groups. In fact, the premium one- to six-bedroom The Beach House Collection residences are designed for those precious times spent together.

  
SUN SIYAM  
RESORTS



her Aerial Development Group as the sixth fastest-growing woman-owned business worldwide. Reassuringly, she hadn't let success derail her principles: to empower people, sustain the planet and, as she repeated with mantra-like regularity, "to utilise capitalism as a force for good"—for example, her company sponsors a Kenyan orphan in the name of the new owner of every house it sells.

She has also founded—and funds—the non-profit Aerial Recovery division to help communities hit by disaster. Aerial had some of the first boots on the ground in Ukraine, including Turner's own. So far it has repatriated more than 5,500 people, mainly orphans, from the country's war zones to safe houses in the western region. She oversees this work with Jeremy Locke, chief operating officer and her bundle-of-fun husband, who served as a Green Beret for ten years.

In a film of her life, Turner might be played by Jennifer Lawrence: sassy, serious, sensitive and sometimes soppy (she's a sucker for a rescue animal, of which more later). The couple fell in love doing humanitarian work in the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian in 2019.

Turner likes to feel good as well as do good. While her private island is not a destination spa, it has a stealth-health mandate for those who don't want bean-sprouts for breakfast and need a break with benefits: the wholesome kind. The resort is a thatched coral-stone complex at the highest point of the 43-acre Buck Island. This alluring, mainly untamed dot is surrounded by 14 other paradise isles, including Tortola, the largest in the archipelago and a short boat ride away.

The Aerial's 17 individually designed rooms are spread among various residences. Turner took charge of interior design, buying from markets in Mexico, Morocco and Indonesia. The look is boho chic, with earthy colours, carved wood, woven rugs, chunky textures and lots of tassels. I'm staying in Dream, in the Unity Residence. The vibe is mellow, with a circular bed, a dinosaur-egg bath, an outdoor shower and a stargazing deck. No detail escapes Turner's forensic gaze, even the loo paper is from a B Corp company that gives 50 per cent of its profits to charities building lavatories in developing countries.

I can eat on the decks, at the Peace Pavilion beach restaurant, by the fire pit on the Higher Love lawned area, on cushions in



the Fellowship Hall main dining room or by the infinity pool. Chefs work to Turner's strict guidelines: ingredients must be local, organic and sustainable wherever possible; red meat on request, but no refined sugar, alcohol and coffee are allowed. Turner estimates that she spends three times more than comparable resorts on food—a claim backed up by the chefs, who said they don't have a budget, instead the emphasis is on procuring thoughtfully.

And the dining is exceptionally good. Breakfasts might be a shot of basil, ginger and pineapple juice followed by overnight oats, a fruit platter, smoked salmon and sourdough toast—or, if you're Locke, six eggs, sunny side up. Lunches included seared mahi mahi in harissa sauce with a kale and parmesan salad, and puddings of peanut chocolate shortbread that were free of gluten, dairy and refined-sugar, and were scrape-the-plate delicious.

At dinner I ate sushi as good as any in London and fragrant bowls of noodles in a Thai broth with chunks of white fish.

Turner's cookie recipe was my favourite dessert, served warm and wickedly gooey, with the cacao chips melting into the coconut-sugar ice cream. I always left the table satisfied and, despite three generously portioned meals a day, lost 2kg (did I mention that?). I felt energised, while my skin had a Doris Day glow.

Gluttony and weight loss? You're probably wondering how to book. There are three options: exclusive use, attending holistic retreats or the more business-oriented Elevate Summits run by Turner (£8,640pp), or a Getaway Week, when it operates as a conventional hotel. All include food, drinks and activities. Getaway guests collaborate, pre-trip, with Amy, the Aerial's guest-experience supremo, to create a schedule from 160 activities.

### Need to know

**Susan d'Arcy** was a guest of the Aerial, which has Getaway Week all-inclusive doubles from £2,770pp, and an all-inclusive island takeover for 26 from £36,174 ([aerialbvi.com](http://aerialbvi.com)). Four-night all-inclusive Elevate Summits start from £8,640pp. Fly to Tortola via Antigua

I skipped the horse riding, cooking classes, the sea bobs and wakeboards, but said yes to a night expedition in a glow-in-the-dark kayak. It proved magical to paddle while a soft light built into the glass bottom revealed shoals of fish. The joy of a private island is the customisation. I was told to pitch up when I liked after dinner at the watersports centre, and return at leisure.

Contentment grew as the days drifted by. I took a 7.15am hike with Kensey, the charismatic yoga teacher, along rough tracks lined with cowboy cacti and scented ylang-ylang plants, startling the goats and dodging hermit crabs rolling before our feet. I tried yoga on the sand under the open-air Peace Teepee, to a soundtrack of birds and waves. Kensey doubles as the therapist at the one-room beach-front spa and has muscle-soothing hands, aided by oils from British cannabidiol brand OTO.

I worked out with Locke and Turner, kickboxed with Adam, hiked endless trails and, on my penultimate day, found Redemption. If only—I refer to Redemption Ranch, aka the stables. While Kensey and Turner had spoken enthusiastically about equine therapy, I'd resisted. Horses are smelly, excitable and prone to sudden (bowel) movements within feet of you. Eventually, I caved in.

There are 17 horses, including miniatures, thoroughbreds and ponies. All had been destined to become dog meat, while four zebras were bound for a Texas game park for trophy hunting. Fortunately, they don't have a donkey because Ashley, the wisecracking ranch manager, would have talked its hind legs off. "How do you make \$1 million from keeping horses? Start with \$2 million," she joked. No kidding: a bale of hay that costs £6 in the US can cost £50 more here, but Turner can't resist a rescue.

Reluctantly, I stood beside Breezy the pony. Ashley told me: "You can lie to me, you can lie to yourself, but you can't lie to a horse. They read your energy." Her comments overlapped remarkably with Locke's description of interrogation tactics—it's all about interpreting and mimicking micro-cues to prevent anger escalation. I had to be completely in the moment. After a few minutes, Breezy and I were in sync. I stroked his warm, soft flank and, just as I was feeling ridiculously relaxed, he defecated. I gave him a disapproving look. He batted his eyelids. After all those incredible experiences, the most predictable turned out to be the best.

## 3 more private island hotels in the BVIs

### Guana Island

This 850-acre island is an unspoilt nature preserve, with 18 cottages and villas, and seven beaches—snorkel off Muskmelon, or kite-surf off North, then follow 12 miles of hiking trails to spot flamingos, tortoises and iguanas.

**Details** Doubles from £817pp per night all-inclusive ([guana.com](http://guana.com)). Fly to Tortola via Antigua

### Necker Island

Not Hurricane Irma in 2017, nor Covid, could dent the popularity of Richard Branson's luxury resort



(pictured). It's OTT from the off, with four-poster beds and freestanding baths in sumptuous rooms, and spa treatments that begin with champagne.

**Details** Doubles from £4,338pp per night all-inclusive ([virginlimitededition.com](http://virginlimitededition.com)). Fly to Tortola via Antigua

### Saba Rock

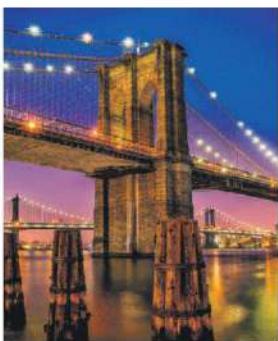
It's been a magnet for yachties and divers for 50 years, because this one-acre dot in the North Sound of Virgin Gorda always has the atmosphere cranked up to playful. Essentially a buzzy restaurant, but there is also a pocket-sized beach, a dinky spa and nine natty rooms.

**Details** Doubles from £475pp per night room only ([sabarock.com](http://sabarock.com)). Fly to Tortola via Antigua

**Susan d'Arcy**

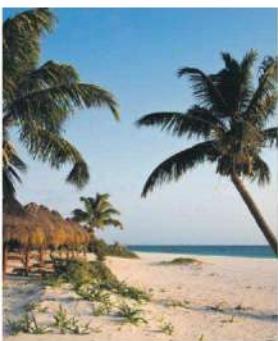


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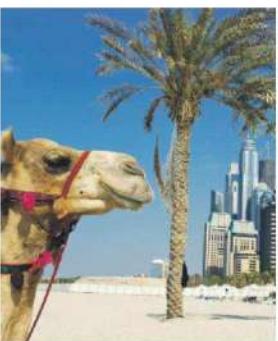
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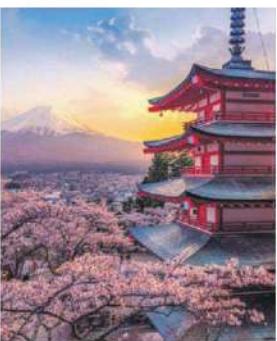
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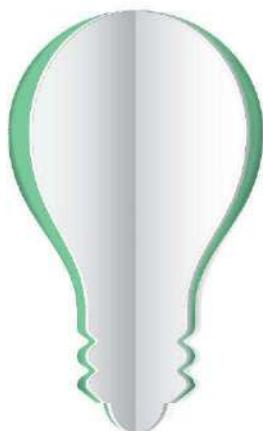
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# Hire your own hamlet in Cornwall

Tremaine Manor & Country Cottages is the cool new venture by hotelier Peter de Savary. **Liz Edwards** checks into the south coast bolt hole

**I**t's up for debate how relaxed most Cornish people would feel about out-of-county visitors descending on their village green for an impromptu picnic, say, or to knock a few golf balls about. Perhaps the answer is "very" and pitchforks wouldn't be involved. But I'm not one for taking risks so I don't propose to find out. Fortunately, staying at Tremaine Manor & Country Cottages, I don't need to.

This little hamlet, curled up in a bend on a leafy lane a few miles inland from Cornwall's south coast near Looe and Polperro, is the latest venture from the serial hotelier and businessman Peter de Savary and his wife, Lana. You might remember Madonna and Guy Ritchie getting married at the Highland pile Skibo Castle. Perhaps you've heard of Bovey Castle, the art deco mansion on Dartmoor, or Babbacombe's posh pub-with-rooms the Cary Arms. All were or are his (as, at one point, were Land's End and John o' Groats). And now he's acquired and revamped Tremaine Manor and the 12 workers' cottages that surround it — and thrown in a new shepherd's hut for good measure.

The self-catering properties can be rented separately or, if you're blessed with a large family or a wide circle of friends, in one madly sociable go. Either way, the hamlet is private — so that village green, with its lavender bushes, water pump, Bodmin granite mushrooms and vintage road sign (Lostwithiel is 12½ miles away on the B3359, apparently) is pretty much up for grabs. Go for your life on the mini-golf, then rein in your least appealing emmet ways before you have to go out in the real world.

I am in fact only too happy to leave the real world behind by the time I arrive. My son and I have, with sorry inevitability, been sitting in stop-start tailbacks all the way along the A303. (Given Dan Snow's recent pronouncement about Stonehenge being overrated, I'm willing to believe he's no stranger to the road himself.) A shoulder rub or a foot massage would be perfect right now — and these are among the services that can be arranged for guests on site. So learn from my mistakes and book an appointment that allows a spare three hours for traffic.

But what we lose in treatments we gain in exploration. We're staying in the Manor House, which can be split into east and west wings if you don't need all seven bedrooms. The building's 1980s youthfulness is hidden behind an exuberant froth of creeper; the weathered stone and heavy-doored entrance would pass for much older. The antiques inside — many from de Savary's private collection — give it gravitas too. A pair of grandfather clocks stand in the hallway; in one lounge is a quill-topped writing bureau and a gramo-



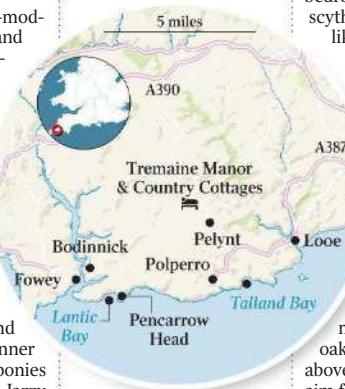
Tremaine Housekeeper's and Miller's Cottages

phone, in another is a snooker-dining table with polished-wooden leaves on top and a collection of model sailing ships. Children are welcome and well catered for but, nevertheless, I'm glad my curious toddler has now become an eight-year-old who sometimes remembers to look with "eyes not hands". Bedrooms offer four-posters, sleigh beds, bunks and a red-leather art-deco number.

The West Wing kitchen is classic-modern with chequerboard floor and petrol-blue cupboards. A large dresser holds stacks of Portmeirion crockery and — a de Savary signature move — a decanter of sloe gin sits waiting on the dining table. Out in the garden are Adirondack chairs and a fire pit, a wood-fired hot tub and a barbecue, a hammock, croquet and sparrow-filled trees.

There's a lot to enjoy in a few days — not least because Tremaine also has a games barn, tennis court, that mini-golf, a playground under a conker tree, a pond with runner ducks and a paddock for Shetland ponies and three pygmy goats named Razzi, Jazzy and Nutty. The lovely Febe Campbell-Collins runs Tremaine and shows us some of the cottages — empty even in August, partly because Cornwall as a whole has

**“**I like the wonky floors and creaky stairs of the 400-year-old Farmhouse Cottage



had a slow summer, partly because the place is new and not yet oversubscribed. (Actually the buildings were holiday lets for 20 years previously, though catering for a different market, but anyone worried about the ethics of new rentals reducing local housing stock can breathe relatively easily.)

Febe's favourite, she says, is the one-bedroom Gardener's Cottage with its scythe and shears hanging on the wall. I like the wonky floors and creaky stairs of the 400-year-old Farmhouse Cottage. There's a friendly lady ghost too, says Febe. I watch the fireside rocking chair for signs of movement, but perhaps that's a cliché too far even for a spook.

Sigs in the grounds indicate a footpath to Pelynt, the nearest village, about a mile away. Back to the real world it may be, but it's hard to fault a route that crosses a brook, runs alongside a wheat field and cuts across a grassy meadow towards a magnificent old oak. We aim for the church tower, visible above hedges and a farmhouse roof, then aim for the pub. The Jubilee Inn — called the Axe Inn in the 17th century when it belonged to the Slade family, who also owned Tremaine — is a lovely pub of snug and nooks and a huge copper chimney piece. We have our (very good) fish and chips at a garden table, where the threat of marauding gulls is mitigated by the sunset views over the village.

The sky caramelises into umber as we return to Tremaine, listening out for the resident barn owl (no luck) and watching for bats (loads).

Tremaine is open year-round — sun lounges and fireplaces keep the Manor House cosy, for instance. And beyond the

gates you're in a part of the world that isn't short of all-weather distractions — stately homes, museums, a steam railway, the Eden Project. There's walking, not least on Bodmin Moor, and watersports of every stripe from paddleboarding to deep-sea fishing. Looe and Polperro are scenic tourist-friendly fishing villages, both five miles from Tremaine.

But it's a scorching day so we save the crab rolls and cream teas for another time and prepare to beach-hop. Talland Bay is our first stop — a sheltered, shallow cove that's great for families, with purple-strata-ed rock and hills either side.

The little car park is full by 11am but we find ourselves an angel who lets us have both his space and his ticket — which gives us 90 minutes before we push on. Febe recommends Lansallos, where she lives, and we pootle around its soporific streets but carry on for the National Trust's Lantic Bay car park. Taking the lead from its actually informative information board, we follow the circular walk up onto Pencarrow Head for far-reaching, spectacular views of Lantic Bay in one direction and Lantivet in the other.

Even the eight-year-old pauses for a moment's appreciation before beach-impatience kicks in. I can't blame him; white sand, water blending from turquoise to navy, and fern-draped cliffs look pretty enticing. It's only a shame that on closer inspection we realise the water is more like compass-jellyfish soup. Probably not too nasty a sting but not something we fancy chancing. At least the pebble-skimming and paddling are world-class. Hours later, the walk back up is hard going but we coax ourselves with the standard carrot: a pub

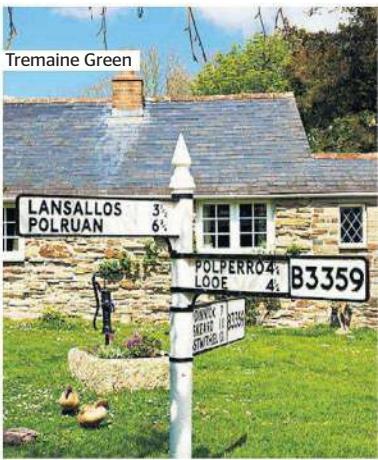
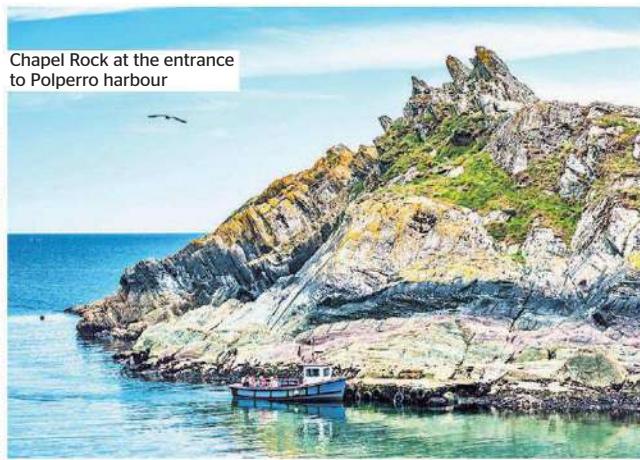
Cornwall guide next page

# 52 Travel

► plan. Driving along the sort of lanes that make you forget you have a third gear, we weave towards Bodinnick and the Old Ferry Inn for an end-of-day thirst-quencher, watching the cars roll off the chainlink ferry from Fowey. Then it's back to Tremaine to tackle the barbecue hamper I've ordered. Maybe I should have organised a private chef instead because I can't light the barbecue coal and then get a bit sweaty at the unfamiliar range cooker. But then it comes together and we're eating burgers and toasting marshmallows on the fire pit (which I can light at least) and all is well. I pour myself a celebratory tot of sloe gin — the Manor House's own friendly spirit.

## Need to know

Liz Edwards was a guest of Tremaine Manor & Country Cottages, which has three nights' self-catering for two from £450, and for 14 in the Manor House from £2,100 ([tremainemanor.com](http://tremainemanor.com))



An advertisement for a cruise deal. It features a bottle of Champagne and a glass filled with bubbles against a dark background with glowing lights. A circular badge in the center says "SAVE UP TO £250 per person on selected cabin grades". Below the badge is a small image of a cruise ship sailing on the water. At the bottom, it says "NEW LOWER FARES" and "Cruise from £1,349 pp\*".

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## Things to eat and do in south Cornwall

### Where to eat Couch's Great House, Polperro

Richard McGeown's culinary CV includes stints under Gordon Ramsay, Marco Pierre White and Raymond Blanc. Today, in this intimate restaurant amid Polperro's quaint lanes, his menus showcase modern British cuisine — roast cod with a leek and gouda croquette, perhaps — and can come with carefully paired wines.

**Details** Four courses from £60 ([couchsgreathouse.polperro.com](http://couchsgreathouse.polperro.com))

### The Three Pilchards, Polperro

This long-standing pub on Polperro's quayside offers some of Cornwall's finest fish and chips — in gigantic portions — and there are lovely harbour views from the hillside beer garden. In line with Polperro's smuggling history, the notorious 19th-century landlord supposedly sold contraband over the bar.

**Details** Mains from £13 ([threepilchards.polperro.co.uk](http://threepilchards.polperro.co.uk))

### The Sardine Factory, Looe

In the quieter, western part of Looe is a Michelin Guide-listed restaurant from *MasterChef: The Professionals* quarter finalist and local son Benjamin Palmer. Using ultra-fresh, sustainably sourced Cornish seafood, his plates range from crab linguine and fresh Porthilly oysters to fishy Cornish tacos with tomato jam.

**Details** Mains from £15 ([thesardinefactory.looe.com](http://thesardinefactory.looe.com))

Non-guests can go for good, unfussy dinners, afternoon teas and Sunday roasts, plus a standout gin menu.

**Details** Mains from £18 ([tallandbayhotel.co.uk](http://tallandbayhotel.co.uk))

### Sarah's Pasty Shop, Looe

This little East Looe nook is always in the running whenever there's a vote for Cornwall's best pastry. Freshly rolled, filled and crimped on the spot, flavour-packed options include a savoury-sweet "miners" pasty alongside the traditional offering. Scoff them out on the nearby Banjo Pier above East Looe beach.

**Details** Pasties from £2 ([sarahspastyshop.com](http://sarahspastyshop.com))



### Things to do Explore Fowey

One of Cornwall's cover stars, Fowey's cobbled, cottage-lined lanes wind steeply downhill to a natural harbour guarded by two 14th-century blockhouses.

The focal Fore Street is full of independent boutiques, while the little MAD museum displays zany, interactive pieces of mechanical art.

**Details** Tickets £1 ([facebook.com/madfowey](http://facebook.com/madfowey))

### Talland Bay Hotel, Porthallow

Uphill from Talland Bay's sand, this friendly hotel has eclectic furnishings, from golden mannequin heads to trompe l'oeil trickery in its garden.

by the water. It's a twee, snoozy experience.

**Details** Returns from £5 ([greatscenicrailways.co.uk](http://greatscenicrailways.co.uk))

### Visit a vineyard

The artisan Looe Valley Vineyard occupies a four-acre site near St Keyne Wishing Well Halt (a stop on the aforementioned line). You can visit to buy bottles of its pinot noir-like red and a white from riesling, pinot gris and muscat parentage year-round, with tours and tastings offered on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from May to the end of September.

**Details** Tasting tours from £13pp ([looevalleyvineyard.co.uk](http://looevalleyvineyard.co.uk))

### Meet monkeys

Just west of Looe, the Monkey Sanctuary cares for rescued or mistreated woolly and capuchin monkeys, Barbary macaques and marmosets. They can usually be viewed on summer weekends plus most days in the Easter, summer, May and October school holidays.

There's a tearoom, of course, and wild play areas to delight your own little monkeys in woodland gardens.

**Details** Tickets £10 ([monkeysanctuary.org](http://monkeysanctuary.org))

### Take a boat trip

Glass-bottomed boat tours depart from East Looe, by the lifeboat station, on summer weekends with calm seas, making 45-minute circuits of Looe Island nature reserve.

Smugglers' caves and sea birds are guaranteed, with seals likely and jellyfish and porpoises a possibility. The luckiest groups may get to glimpse minke whales.

**Details** Tours from £10pp, cash only ([facebook.com/looeboattrips](http://facebook.com/looeboattrips))

**Richard Mellor**

This enchanting island promises culinary delights, fantastic outdoor activities and dramatic scenery comprising of black sand beaches towering rock walls and gushing waterfalls.



### Scenic Madeira

7 nights from £899

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  - Funchal • Monte

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  - Five restaurants & two bars • Spa Priced during the Easter Holidays

### Reid's Palace, A Belmond Hotel

7 nights from £1,499

- Direct flights, 5★ clifftop hotel, breakfast and private transfers
  - Direct sea access • Three pools
  - Spa • Three restaurants incl a Michelin-starred restaurant & a bar
  - Magnificent ocean views

### Luxury Twin Centre

8 nights from £1,149

- Direct flights, car hire, 5 nights 5★ Savoy Palace, 3 nights 4★ oceanfront hotel and breakfast
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  - Enjoy the island's many hiking trails, coastal villages and forested interior

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**MOUNTAIN** Visit this famous statue, 700m above Rio – your BBQ lunch is included. Ascend Sugar Loaf Mountain by cable car with views across the city.

**DAY 4 RIO TO IGUAZU, ARGENTINA ESCORTED  
TOUR OF BRAZILIAN FALLS** The morning is yours, then fly to Iguaçu for your first view of the spectacular falls before crossing into Argentina.

**DAY 5 IGUAZU, ARGENTINA ESCORTED TOUR  
OF ARGENTINIAN FALLS** Today, a different view of the falls from the other side – including a visit to the suspended platform at the side of the Devil's Throat, largest of the falls... one of the great wonders of the world.

**DAY 6 IGUAZU TO BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA  
DINNER & TANGO SHOW** After your flight, check into your hotel and get ready for a spectacular dinner featuring a seductive Tango show.

**DAY 7 EMBARK SAPPHIRE PRINCESS** Settle into your cabin for an overnight stay in port.

**DAY 8 EXPLORE BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA** Time to explore this cosmopolitan city with its colourful districts – Palermo with its mansions, Soho and Hollywood for chic boutiques, Italian La Boca where

## IGUAZU FALLS GUIDED TOUR BOTH BRAZIL AND ARGENTINE SIDES!

Tango dancers perform in the streets.

**DAY 9 MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY** The capital city overlooks Montevideo Bay; the Plaza de la Independencia, once home to a Spanish citadel, leads to Ciudad Vieja (the old town), with art deco buildings, colonial homes and the towering Palacio Salvo.

**DAY 10 AT SEA** You're onboard a Princess MedallionClass® cruise that features next-level technology; enjoy fast, reliable Wi-Fi, TrulyTouchless™ experiences, food and drinks delivered wherever you are and so much more.

**DAY 11 PUERTO MADRYN, ARGENTINA** Welsh settlers fleeing poverty in the industrial revolution followed Viscount Madryn to Patagonia where they founded this small city; nearby Tombo National Reserve is a magical breeding ground for penguins.

**DAY 12 AT SEA** Princess offers unparalleled inclusive dining options throughout the ship with a wide range of culinary delights to suit any palate, from endless buffet choice to gourmet pizza, frosty treats, decadent desserts and much more.

**DAY 13 FALKLAND ISLANDS** Windswept and wild, these famous Islands remain proudly British with a particularly warm welcome for their countrymen and women.

**DAY 14 CAPE HORN, CHILE** Once feared by sailing boats but your 115,000-ton Princess ship is hardly ruffled as you glide past the tip of South America.

## CHRIST THE REDEEMER RIO DE JANEIRO FULL DAY TOUR

**DAY 15 USHUAIA, ARGENTINA** Tierra del Fuego, called the 'land of fire' by Magellan, now the gateway to an icy wilderness where snow-capped mountains plunge to the cold water of the Beagle Channel; watch out for whales!

**DAY 16 PUNTA ARENAS, CHILE** This bustling port is literally near the ends of the earth, with Antarctica across the ocean. This is the gateway to Chilean Patagonia, with a maze of fjords, rivers, steppes and mountains to the north.

**DAY 17 AMALIA GLACIER, CHILE** You cruise past awe-inspiring channels and islands and learn about southern Chile's Pacific coast. The awesome, blue-tinted Amalia Glacier in Bernardo O'Higgins National Park will take your breath away.

**DAY 18 AT SEA** Original musicals, dazzling magic shows, feature films, top comedians and nightclubs that get your feet movin' and groovin'... there's something happening around every corner!

**DAY 19 PUERTO MONTT, CHILE** Gateway to Chile's magnificent Lake District, with snow-capped volcanoes and jewel-like lakes carved out by glaciers.

**DAY 20 AT SEA** Revitalize and refresh body, mind and soul with Princess®, from rejuvenating spa treatments and the tranquility of a top-deck retreat reserved just for adults to state-of-the-art fitness centres.

## TANGO SHOW AND DINNER IN BUENOS AIRES

**DAY 21 DISEMBARK SAN ANTONIO (SANTIAGO), CHILE, FLY LIMA, PERU** Check into your 4★ central hotel.

**DAY 22 LIMA, PERU ESCORTED LIMA CITY TOUR**

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, your tour begins at the traditional Pueblo Libre district where you visit the Larco museum in a restored mansion built on the remains of an Inca pyramid.

**DAY 23 LIMA – CUSCO – AGUAS CALIENTES, PERU ESCORTED SACRED VALLEY TOUR** Fly to Cusco for a full day tour of the Sacred Valley, then take a spectacular train ride to Aguas Calientes to check in to your hotel.

**DAY 24 MACHU PICCHU, PERU GUIDED TOUR**

A short bus ride to the greatest 'lost' city of the world. The towering ruins of this legendary Inca city were only discovered in 1911 – a citadel in the clouds.

**DAY 25 CUSCO, PERU ESCORTED HALF DAY TOUR** You'll see the city and the Inca Museum and Coricancha, the Golden Temple of the Sun.

**DAY 26 FLY LIMA, PERU TO UK**

**DAY 27 ARRIVE UK REGIONAL ARRIVAL AIRPORTS AVAILABLE**

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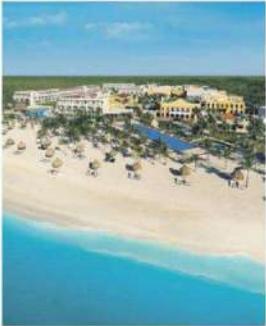
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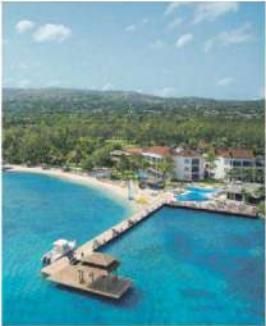
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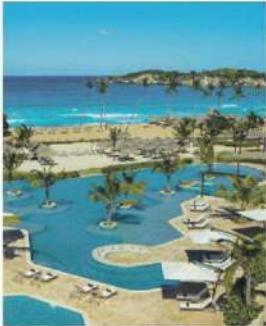
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7 nights from £1,379\*

Fights, 5★ all inclusive beach resort and private transfers

- Four pools
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# 56 Travel

## Late deals

### York on a school night

If you're able to take a break between Sunday and Tuesday, consider York, where the five-star hotel The Grand offers a discounted "Post-Weekend Wind Down" package. Handily equidistant from the train station and historic city centre, the hotel includes a two-course dinner in the modern British Rose Restaurant in the deal, and unlimited access to spa facilities, with half-board doubles costing from £229 ([thegrandyork.co.uk](http://thegrandyork.co.uk)).

### Autumn Lakeland

Macdonald Hotels is offering 20 per cent discounts on its hotels for bookings until November 30. Among the options is Leeming House in the Lake District, whose fells hills offer fabulous autumn colours. Positioned on Ullswater's banks, the pet-friendly bolt hole combines fine dining with landscaped gardens, afternoon teas and traditional bedrooms. B&B doubles now cost from £201 ([macdonaldhotels.co.uk](http://macdonaldhotels.co.uk))

### Portuguese walking

Setting off on October 9, a guided, small-group hiking



tour around Portugal's western Algarve promises to take you through aromatic citrus groves and along spectacular coastal trails. Handsome towns and almond-growing hills also feature, with hearty dinners following each evening. Expect to walk an

average of seven miles a day, always with shorter options available. Discounted by £139pp, the seven-night jaunt now costs £1,560pp including flights from Heathrow, Manchester, Birmingham or Bristol, transport and half-board hotel accommodation ([ramblersholidays.co.uk](http://ramblersholidays.co.uk)).

**Short-haul Greek island perfection**  
Loggos is one of those impossibly quaint Greek island villages where



ISTOCKPHOTO/GETTY IMAGES

unpretentious harbourside tavernas serve superbly fresh seafood. Find it on the east coast of Paxos, which remains buzzy and warm into October. Close to the waterfront is Alecas Cottage, a little terraced house with a sea-facing balcony. Reduced in price by almost half, seven nights' self-catering for two departing on September 26 now costs £669pp, including flights from Gatwick and transfers ([sunvil.co.uk](http://sunvil.co.uk)).

### Family fun in Sicily

October temperatures still routinely exceed 20C in northern Sicily yet half-term packages are bargain-priced. Seven nights' B&B for a family of three at the Baia del Capitano hotel, for instance, costs just £1,064pp departing on October 24, including flights from Gatwick and airport transfers ([citalia.com](http://citalia.com)). Equipped with tennis courts, bicycles, an indoor/outdoor restaurant and a private sandy beach, the hotel offers free shuttles to nearby Cefalu and its fortress-style Norman cathedral.

### Self-catering in Cyprus

A small resort town on the Ayia Napa peninsula's quieter side in eastern Cyprus, beach-lined Protaras sits close to hefty Hellenistic tombs, pine-forest trails and lonely, limestone Profitis Ilias church. Head there on September 21 and you can enjoy 40 per cent savings on stays at the poolside Sweet Memories Apartments. That leaves seven nights' self-catering for two costing £409pp, including flights from East Midlands airport ([olympicholidays.com](http://olympicholidays.com)).

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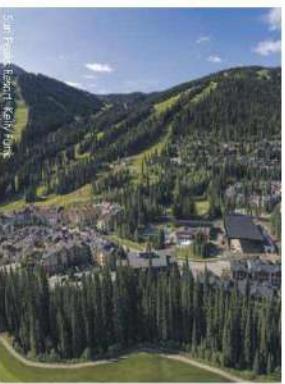
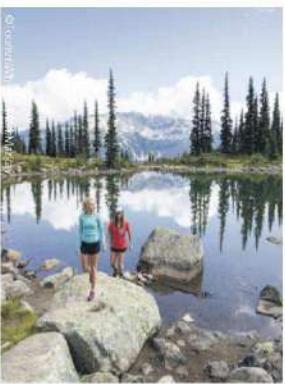
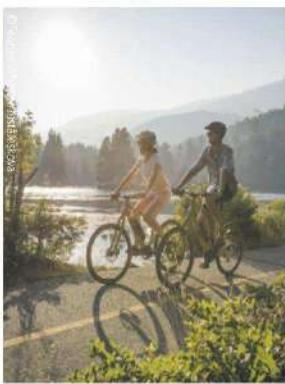
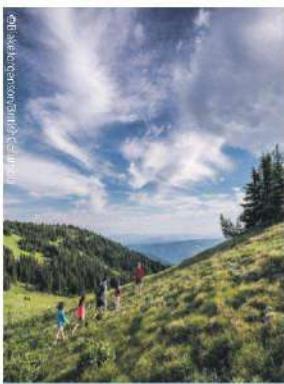


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### Whistler & Vancouver

10 nights from £1,549\*

Flights, 3 nights Vancouver hotel, 7 nights 4★ Whistler hotel, FlyOver Canada admission, Vancouver City Tour & Capilano Suspension Bridge, Whistler Peak 2 Peak Alpine Experience, Whistler Zipline Bear Tour and transfers.  
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• 360 degree mountain views • Hiking trails for relaxing strolls to exhilarating summits  
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### Sun Peaks & Vancouver

10 nights from £2,149\*

Flights, 7 days fully inclusive car hire, 3 nights 4★ Vancouver hotel, 7 nights 4★+ Sun Peaks hotel, FlyOver Canada admission, Vancouver City Tour & Capilano Suspension Bridge and guided Sun Peaks hike  
• 360 degree mountain views • Hiking trails for relaxing strolls to exhilarating summits  
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"Truly excellent: patient, friendly, helpful & a mine of knowledge, tips and advice."

Come to Naxos for sensational beaches and stay for the history, food and a doorway to another world, says Dana Facaros

# Idol rich

**N**axos was Byron's favourite island with good reason. It defies the rocky, arid Cycladic stereotype; here lie fertile plains, woodlands and streams. Beyond its long sandy beaches wait unique archaeological sites, beautiful whitewashed villages, Byzantine churches and Venetian towers. The islanders' friendly, laid-back attitude will make you feel instantly at home, where you're staying in a romantic hideaway, family resort (kids love Naxos!) or cheap and cheerful studio.

Start with a tour of the gleaming white capital, Chora (or Naxos Town). Its main landmark dominates the harbour: the Portara, a huge marble doorway from a 6th-century BC Temple of Apollo. It stands alone like a portal to another dimension, and also makes a perfect frame for those stunning Aegean sunsets.

A maze of narrow lanes, designed to confound invaders, wiggles up through Chora to the castle, built by the Venetians when they claimed the Cyclades after the Fourth Crusade. Today it houses a small army of white marble idols dating back to 3200BC. Naxos, rich in marble and emery (used to shape the strangely modern-looking figures), was a leading light in the neolithic/early Bronze Age Cycladic civilization.

A long string of sandy beaches begins within walking distance of Chora. Standouts include the well-equipped sands of Agios Prokopios and Plaka, the island's longest beach, but carry on south and you'll find a dozen more. Mikri Vigla is renowned across Greece for wind and kitesurfing. Others offer

scuba diving, sailing, sea kayaking – or just the chance to dream the day away to the murmur of the sea.

Under 3,295ft Mount Zas – the highest point in the Cyclades – Naxos's lush interior begs to be explored by car or in the saddle of a bike, e-bike or horse. A network of trails links the villages, another ascends Zas, with its unforgettable views. Aim for Halki, the island's former capital, which has cobbled streets, medieval tower houses and Byzantine churches amid the olive groves. Don't miss a visit to Halki's distillery where citrons are made into Naxos's Kitron liqueur.

To the east, the mountain village of Apiranthos is so beautiful that Byron wanted to die there.

Among its marble-paved lanes and Venetian towers are some fascinating little museums as well as the Women's Traditional Crafts Cooperative, where locals sell traditional textiles woven on looms. Many are descendants of the Cretans who worked in the emery mines; today Apiranthos has a unique, lively atmosphere.

Down on the coast at Moutsouna are fascinating relics of the cableway that transported emery to the port. The coastal road south of here passes tranquil coves on the way to Panormos beach, where boats sail to Rhina, a beautiful cave accessible only by sea.

And the food? It's excellent, and local: fertile Naxos has always been self-sufficient, producing superb olive oil, wines, honey, seafood, cured hams, graviera and other cheeses, fruit, vegetables and potatoes. You'll find modern restaurants in Chora and the resorts,



Cretans who worked in the emery mines; today Apiranthos has a unique, lively atmosphere.



but also seek out the traditional family-run tavernas in the villages. The locals know – just ask!

And there's more. Naxos is the base for visiting the small but otherworldly Koufonisia islands: Ano Koufonisi and Kato Koufonisi. From Chora, fast ferries and pleasure boats provide links, the speediest from Naxos taking only 40 minutes.

Ano Koufonisi, the main island, is the perfect place for a digital detox, where you don't need a watch or car, although you may find yourself constantly reaching for your phone to capture the extraordinary colours of the sea, which comes in every shade from midnight blue to shimmering jade. It has one village, Chora, and it's a stunner – a white cubist masterpiece with a chic but

#### THE MARBLES OF NAXOS

The Portara (see above) isn't the only relic of ancient Naxos. Near Sangri, don't miss the beautiful partly-reconstructed Temple of Demeter from 520BC, while the 4th-century BC marble Chimarras Tower south of Filoti is thought to have been used for signalling across the Aegean. Large 7th-century BC *kouros* (naked youth) statues lie abandoned in the marble quarries of Flerio and Melanes, while other fragments lie about the quarries of Apollonas, including the biggest *kouros* of them all: a 36ft giant.

**Island treasures:**  
clockwise from above,  
Naxos Town harbour;  
Sangri's Temple of  
Demeter; by the shore  
in Ano Koufonisi; Venus  
statue with Portara beyond

relaxed atmosphere, where colourful island characters run the hotels, boutiques, bars, restaurants and the island's one taxi.

Koufonisia is all about idyllic, unspoilt beaches. Most face south, away from the blustering meltemi wind. The lovely sands of Finikas are a short walk west of Chora, followed by clothes-optimal Italida; another lane leads north to Pori beach famous for its turquoise waters and reliable taverna. From here it's a ten-minute walk east to fantastical Gala beach tucked among white cliffs. When it's calm you can swim through the hole in the rock into the sea. Another slice of geological magic is the Piscina or "Eye of the Devil" south of Pori, where you can dive into a deep blue natural seawater pool.

In summer, hourly boats depart from Ano Koufonisi for Kato Koufonisi, passing the picturesque islet-rocks of Giaronisi. Without any permanent residents, Kato Koufonisi combines sea caves and pristine coves with yet more glorious beaches: pebbly Lakki beach with an exceptional taverna and Nero beach a short walk to the west, among others. The sea is so clear here that boats and fish cast shadows on the sea floor. Take a boat tour and see if you can resist diving straight in.

“  
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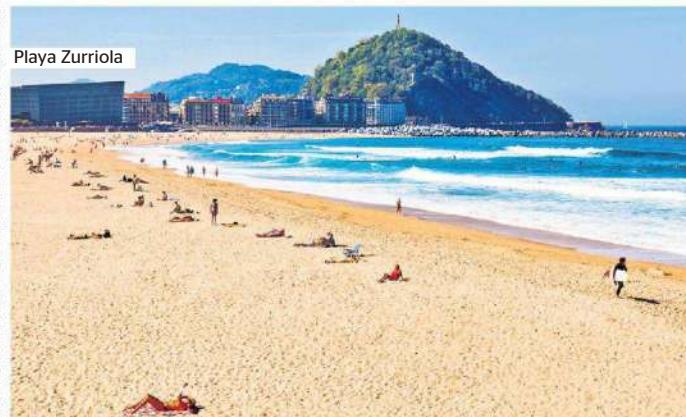
# San Sebastian for families Beach

The Basque city — Spain's culinary capital — has lots for children. They might even eat something new, says Orla Thomas

**M**y five-year-old son — protein-septic, mushroom-refusenik, extractor of lettuce from sandwiches — is eating a mussel. The bivalve has admittedly been cooked into a béchamel sauce, returned to its shell, breadcrumbed and deep-fried — but still, I feel vindicated. Bar Desy is the first stop on a family-friendly pintxo tour of Spain's culinary capital, and already the children are trying new things.

Pintxos, the Basque Country's take on tapas, seem tailor-made for picky eaters. In its simplest form, a single portion of food cocktail-sticked onto a piece of bread (pintxo means "spike"), each offering is approachably small — a perfect fit for that well-worn parenting mantra "just one mouthful". Each bar has its own speciality and many are kiddie crowd-pleasers — a ham croquette, say, or a tiny square of tortilla. And if the children aren't keen? Well, each pintxo only costs a couple of euros. Consider it an offering to the gods of future varied eating.

Our guide, Gabriela Ranelli from Tenedor Tours, has worked in San Sebastian for more than 30 years and says she has seen more and more families visiting the city, post-pandemic. "After spending two years



locked up together, they've emerged with different relationships and eager for adventure." She tells us that *txikiteo*, the local tradition in which a group of friends spend an evening moving from bar to bar, having some wine and a pintxo or two in each, has made a welcome return. Each gang of roving snackers is known as a *cuadrilla* and, as I'm with my husband and three sons, mine comes ready-made.

Rather than the old town, where the

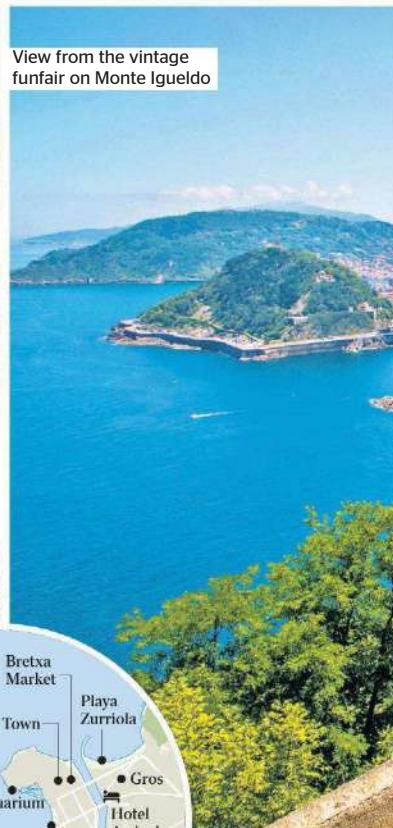
bars are so narrow and crowded that in high season children "won't see much beyond everyone's knees", Ranelli has steered us to Gros. The city's Brooklyn, this cool, beachside neighbourhood is also renowned for its pintxos. We set out at 7pm, when most kitchens start to open, and boulevards are already buzzing with life; people spilling from bars into the fading sunshine with drinks in hand.

Bar Desy's bartender fills our glasses with *txakoli*, the light and fizzy local wine. Holding the bottle at head height, he theatrically trickles a stream into an oversized glass, stopping abruptly at an abstemious inch (the people of San Sebastian know the trick to a pintxo crawl is pacing yourself). My children will attempt to replicate this high pour for the rest of the holiday, spilling untold litres of water and Fanta Limón. They're enjoying the inherently informal nature of pintxo dining; always resistant to sitting on a chair for the duration of a meal, they're delighted to find that seats are entirely optional here. Nevertheless, they rush to sit down when the bar's signature dish is served. A diminutive burger made from tender pink steak, it disappears from our plates with almost indecent haste.

Ranelli leads us on through the square by San Ignacio church, where children are larking about in the playground or racing around with a football while their parents and grandparents chat over drinks at terrace tables. "If the parents are out," says Ranelli. Even if the grown-ups are heading for one of San Sebastian's trio of triple-Michelin-starred restaurants? She nods. "You do get couples taking their children to Arzak."

Emerging from another bar we pass surfers, hair dripping and wetsuits peeled to the waist, walking their boards barefoot through the increasingly lively streets. My children are excited by this evidence of a nearby beach, sniffing at the sea air like dogs on the trail. Before long we're dragged onto the sands at Playa Zurriola, where the boys have an impromptu dip, fully clothed.

We lure them from the waves with the promise of an ice cream at Boulevard



Gelateria. As we devour generously loaded cones, topped with fast-melting yoghurt and turron-flavoured scoops, Ranelli tells us that San Sebastian's surf culture has really taken off. "I don't know a single local kid who's not into it." We spot countless shops offering hire and lessons, and promise the boys a return visit with added bodyboards.

San Sebastian may have better waves than other cities on Spain's Mediterranean coast, but its weather is more unpredictable. You'll want some rainy-day options in your back pocket, even if you visit at the height of summer. Kids get a lot out of the Eureka! Science Museum, in parkland a 15-minute drive outside the centre and, in the old town, San Telmo is worth a visit. Spread across a 16th-century convent and a modernist new wing, the museum explores the Basque Country's history.

San Telmo, the patron saint of seamen, must have a special place in his heart for the *percebeiros*, who harvest the northern Spanish delicacy gooseneck barnacles. The crustaceans thrive in the choppy north Atlantic, where they are cut from the rocks by harness-wearing specialists. A kilo costs €120 (£103) at San Sebastian's La Bretxa Market, where my children are mesmerised by the sight of food in its rawest forms — an entire shrink-wrapped piglet, langoustines so fresh they're still shifting on the ice, and tanks of crabs and lobsters with taped claws.

The traditions of local fishermen, including replica models of their lovely boats, make an intriguing display at the nearby San Sebastian Aquarium (£12; aquariumss.com). Hanging from the ceil-

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# time, funfairs and lots of churros



## Need to know

ing is the skeleton of a whale hunted and caught in 1878, a ghostly testament to a trade that the region dominated for centuries and then banned.

There's also the usual plethora of tanks filled with weird and wonderful creatures, from a bloom of jellyfish to a muraena, a monstrously large eel. Most impressive is the walk-through tunnel, where sharks and stingrays swim serenely overhead. None of these sightings deters us from a

seafood lunch and we shore up at Marinela, one of many delightful-looking restaurants lining the city's old port (mains from £18; marineladonostia.com). My children again surprise me with their willingness for experimental eating — perhaps connected to our strict regulation of their access to the bread basket. They are particularly enthusiastic about calamari, fresh anchovies and an incomparably flavourful tomato salad — OK, and the chips.

A 40-minute postprandial pootle along San Sebastian's sweeping seafront promenade takes us past endless terraced cafés and to the funicular stop for Monte Igeldo, where a railway built in 1912 chugs passengers in wooden carriages to its modest 181m (600ft) summit. Sprawled across the top is a vintage funfair, its sweetly old-fashioned attractions — from carousel to bumper cars, haunted house to strength-testing hammer — a congenial place to while away a few hours en famille (funicular £3.50, rides from £1; monteiguelo.es). The rides suit young children; the most heart-stopping moment is the view from the rollercoaster, which teeters over wave-lashed cliffs before plunging shrieking families into a dark tunnel beneath a crenellated tower.

Monte Igeldo is, like many theme parks worldwide, low on culinary highlights. But there is one: thick melted chocolate served with churros, which coat our fingers with cinnamon sugar as we simultaneously devour doughnuts and San Sebastian's incredible postcard panorama. The pale sandy curve of Playa de la Concha stretches out before us, the rich Cantabrian Sea on one side and the fertile, green lands of the Basque Country on the other. It's no wonder this city eats so well.

## Four great places to eat and drink

### Bergara

Like many Spanish bars, the well-regarded Bergara in Gros is somewhat brightly lit, but at least you get a good view of the ornate pintxos. Take a seat at one of the shared benches to try delicately crisp battered prawns or a mini jamon-filled croissant, a reminder that the French border is mere miles away (pintxos from £3; pinchosbergara.es).

### Bodega Donostiarra

With its sheltered outdoor tables and exquisite all-day food, it's no wonder there's often a queue outside this Gros bar. Try a Gilda, the pintxo named after the titular character of a 1946 Rita Hayworth film, or one of the "complete" tuna sandwiches, stuffed with guindilla peppers and good olive oil (pintxos from £2, mains from £10; bodegadonostiarra.com).

### Asador Alalia

Sharing Monte Igeldo's knock-out view of San Sebastian is this traditional restaurant and its sizeable terrace. As you'd expect from an asador, or grill, the meaty mains are excellent too — try the ox chop or the suckling veal ribs (mains from £10; restaurantealalia.com).

### Bar Nestor

Said to be the best tortilla in Spain, the signature dish at this old town bar is prepared fresh only twice a day. Arrive at 12pm or 7pm to put your name down for a slice of the perfectly cooked egg and potato omelette. It's the epitome of what San Sebastian does best: quality ingredients, prepared with utmost care (pintxos from £2; bar-nestor.negocio.site).

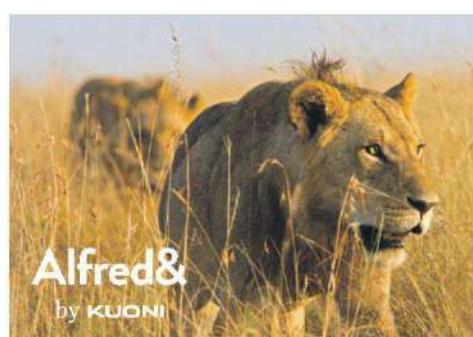
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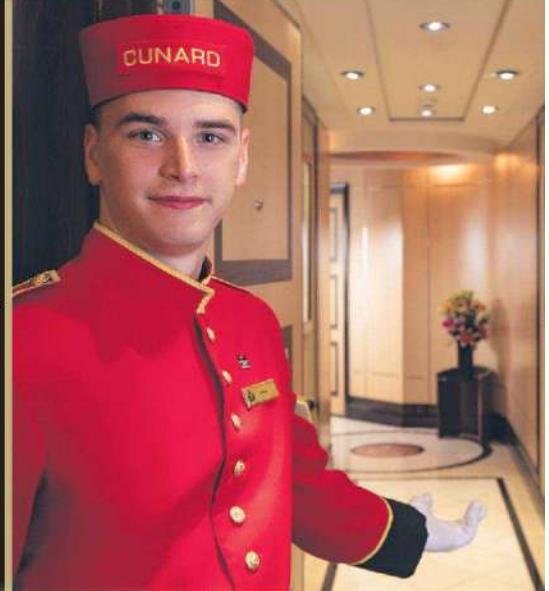
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# Thessaloniki: the ancient city that's becoming a new foodie destination

Rachel Howard finds a taste of Greece in its meze bars, stylish hotels and traditional food markets

**S**painish anchovies, Russian salad, quail à la Ali Pasha, breaded brains, cod in Hollandaise sauce, courgette moussaka, artichoke mousseline, meatballs égyptiennes..." Stelios Mylonas is reeling off the dishes of the day at Olympos Naoussa on a typical Friday in 1971. For 17 years Mylonas worked as a waiter at this landmark restaurant on Thessaloniki's waterfront.

In the gastronomic desert of the 1970s, only a restaurant in Thessaloniki could have such a cosmopolitan menu. The culinary history of the city is a tale of many cultures entwined: of Orthodox Greeks, Ottoman Turks, Sephardic Jews, Balkan migrants, Egyptian merchants, refugees from Asia Minor. No other city in Greece has such a multicultural identity, or such an exciting food scene — even if this beguiling trading post has also suffered plenty of invasions, pogroms and natural disasters.

When Olympos Naoussa opened in 1927, Thessaloniki had only just rebuilt itself after a fire destroyed much of the city a decade earlier. The French urban planner Ernest Hébrard was enlisted to redesign "Salonica" as a modern European metropolis, with grand boulevards, covered arcades and public squares surrounding the Byzantine monuments.

Olympos Naoussa was an emblem of the city's renaissance — a classic restaurant where the monogrammed china came from Bavaria, the chefs kept a sack of oysters in the sea to keep them fresh, and waiters in white jackets and bow ties knew every customer by name. "I used to come for Sunday lunch with my father," recalls Lena Koulouri-Tornivouka, a big player in the local hospitality scene. "It wasn't the fanciest or most expensive restaurant in town, but it was the restaurant that people would come back to again and again."

Koulouri-Tornivouka and her husband, Dinos, own and operate Eagles Palace, a five-star resort on the Halkidiki peninsula, and two boutique hotels in downtown Thessaloniki. When the abandoned Olympos Naoussa building went up for

auction, the family jumped at the opportunity to reopen the restaurant and add a 60-key hotel, ON Residence. The £17 million makeover took three years. From the decorative cornices to the patterned floor tiles, the restoration process always followed the same line of inquiry: how much of the original structure could be saved, repaired and replaced?

"Restoring the building was a way of preserving people's memories," Koulouri-Tornivouka tells me over an iced coffee in the back garden, where a vast marble waterfall has replaced what was once an open-air cinema screen. "We even managed to get the same phone number for Olympos Naoussa, so patrons who had memorised it will have no trouble reserving a table."

The crowd at the revamped restaurant (mains from about £13; [olymposnaoussa.gr](http://olymposnaoussa.gr)) is a mix of smart-casual hotel guests and nostalgic locals admiring the brasserie-inspired interior from the banquette. Staff, in white jackets or round-collared blouses and black skirts, straighten the starched tablecloths and refill wine glasses with courteous intent.

Executive chef Dimitris Tasioulas has reimaged the most popular dishes with



wit and finesse: creamed spinach appears with gnocchi and amaranth popcorn, a Hoffman schnitzel is disguised as a croquette, mussel pilaf is laced with fennel, lemongrass and sea anemones. Thessaloniki's historically diverse population is also well represented: Sephardic huevos hamnados, Pontian dumplings and hunkar begendi, a deeply satisfying marriage of braised beef cheeks and aubergine cream.

As I made my way to the Tiger Loop Bar for a digestif, a gaggle of influencers were posing on the hotel's curvaceous marble staircase. The hand-painted mural behind them took six months to complete. Since the original building wasn't designed as a hotel, form sometimes trumps function. The tiny reception is more of a landing than a lobby (but there's a cosy lounge on the mezzanine).

A handful of guestrooms have high ceilings and period details; bedrooms on the four new upper floors forgo heritage style for smart, contemporary comfort. Balconies are small but look out far across the

Gulf of Salonica as well as the wharf where old warehouses now house a photography and a cinema museum. This is where, every November, the Thessaloniki Film Festival floods the city with international stars. You could sit for days watching swifts and seagulls dance across the sky, fishermen waiting for a catch, ships drifting across the horizon and courting couples strolling up and down the promenade.

Sunset is the best time to walk, jog or cycle along Thessaloniki's 5km boardwalk.

On a clear day you can see as far as Mount Olympus — a view that's even more spectacular from the ramparts of the Eptapyrgio (the Seven-towered Castle), the city's

Byzantine and Ottoman fortress. Huddled below the castle is Ano Poli, the Upper Town, where cobbled lanes and half-timbered houses are painted in faded shades of mustard and duck egg. Unscathed by

the Great Fire of 1917, Ano Poli feels like a hilly neighbourhood of Istanbul as you

wander around, right down to the place names: the Pasha's Gardens, the Alaca Imaret mosque. After dark, the mournful melodies of rembetika, the Greek blues, fill the squares where students sing along in tavernas that look like film sets.

Thessaloniki has a surprisingly contemporary edge for a city of streets layered with so much history, reverberating with echoes of the Bosphorus, the Balkans and Byzantium. The creative quarter revolves around Valaoritou street, the graffiti heart of the hipster scene. Ypsilon (Edessis 5; mains from about £7) is a 150-year-old paper factory transformed into a café, co-working and events space. Here, by day freelancers graze on sourdough toast with burrata and grilled grapes; a long-haired, sneaker-clad crowd nurses cocktails in the alleyway outside deep into the night.

A couple of blocks away, Beetroot (beetroot.gr), an internationally feted design agency, is about to launch a concept store selling its mythologically inspired merchandise and boldly packaged Yiayia provisions. Across the street, Beetroot's



An Executive Courtyard room at ON Residence





St Paul's church in Thessaloniki



The restaurant at ON Residence



first restaurant, Poster, is due to open in November, with a Greco-Levantine menu dreamt up by chef Vasilis Chamam, who spent years honing his skills in London.

Beetroot's old-meets-new HQ, in a belle époque mansion spanning an entire block, was designed by Sparch, a local architecture practice. It is also busy remodelling another century-old landmark, the Modiano. This covered food market was traditionally the place to taste Salonia's tantalising mezze. A colourful souk of stalls and delis provided the ingredients for old-fashioned ouzeri where roving musicians belted out tunes. The new design will create a loft-like space for dining under the skylit eaves of the glass and steel roof.

"Our social life is about sharing and tasting, gathering and lingering. Food is the focal point," says Smaragda Makri, a charming, chatty epicurean who runs Eat and Walk tours of Thessaloniki. There's plenty of talking too, as we wander around the lively Kapani Market. Here stalls are arrayed with cured fish, bundles of oregano and pickled everything. Specialist shops sell beeswax candles, Greek coffee pots and vintage buttons. There is a kaleidoscope of olives, and stuffed vine leaves as slender as cigarillos are on display at To Pantopoleio tis Thessalonikis.

At Papageorgiou, purveyor of fine produce since 1926, preserved bergamot, quince and sour cherries drenched in

### Need to know

Rachel Howard was a guest of ON Residence, which has B&B doubles from £125 ([onresidence.gr](http://onresidence.gr)). Smaragda Makri's food tours are bookable through Eat and Walk ([eatandwalk.gr](http://eatandwalk.gr)). Fly to Thessaloniki

syrup are ladled from blue enamel saucepans. At Bombidia locals tuck into soutzoukkakia, meatball kebabs with smoked chilli served on greaseproof paper. The recipe was brought to Thessaloniki by refugees from Asia Minor in the early 20th century, just like the city's other favourite snack, bougatsa. Head to Bandis, where six variations on the featherlight filo are wrapped around seasonal fillings and you can also buy cheese, meat and custard pies.

At its best, Thessaloniki's flourishing food scene is a blend of the traditional and iconoclastic: take the bite-sized flavour bombs at Deka Trapezia ([dekatrapezia.gr](http://dekatrapezia.gr)), sharing plates from about £5), chef Manolis Papoutsakis's chic and cheerful mezze

and raki bar, or the delicate seafood and almost painterly salads at Mairi & Margarita (mains from about £10; [fragkon3.gr](http://fragkon3.gr)), expertly paired with superb Greek wines by the sommelier, Roi Apoikou. It's a daring yet unpretentious type of cooking that reflects the surroundings: dive bars cheek by jowl with Byzantine churches, café tables perched nonchalantly on the perimeter of a Roman forum or 15th-century hammam.

For a city of more than one million residents, Thessaloniki has an easy-going tempo. It's compact enough to be walkable — and vibrant enough to feel like a metropolis on the cusp of something new, even when that something is at least a century old.

## 3 more design-led hotels in Thessaloniki

**The Modernist**  
Just off Aristotelous Square, the city's central plaza, the Modernist is not strictly modern at all. Boxy rooms (categorised S, M, L and XL) possess sharp, monochrome interiors, but period features abound in this 1920s heritage building, from the patterned floor tiles to the winding marble staircase. Amenities are compact but cleverly thought out: a tiny roof terrace for breakfast, a quiet workspace with an espresso station and a design shop where you can pick up branded items, books and magazines. The switched-on staff are

plugged into all the goings-on about town. An ideal bolt hole for long weekenders.  
**Details** B&B doubles from £89 ([themodernisthotels.com](http://themodernisthotels.com))

### Makedonia Palace

Just beyond the White Tower, the symbol of the city, the Makedonia Palace is almost as much of a waterfront landmark. Open since 1971 and completely refreshed in 2017, this eight-storey hotel has hosted everyone from heads of state to movie stars including John Malkovich and Catherine Deneuve attending the Thessaloniki Film Festival. Although the atmosphere has a faintly corporate edge, it's one of the few hotels in the city with a full range of leisure facilities.



Reception area at the Excelsior  
The seaside swimming pool is a summer oasis and there's a hammam for soothing soaks in cooler weather.  
**Details** B&B doubles from £172 ([makedoniapalace.com](http://makedoniapalace.com))

### Excelsior

As the glorious neoclassical façade suggests, this city-centre

hotel was built in 1924. It was revived by the Tornivouka family in 2009. The building's fine bone structure is intact but the 36 rooms are more contemporary than retro, with plum and gold accents and simple

but functional furnishing. Breakfast is served in the hidden roof garden. Clochard restaurant, a staple of the city's fine-dining scene since 1978, recently relocated to the Excelsior's ground floor. The charcoal oven-cooked steaks are especially good.  
**Details** B&B doubles from £112 ([excelsiorhotel.gr](http://excelsiorhotel.gr))

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# The Times hotel guide

## Hotel Brooklyn Leicester

Food ★★★★  
Location ★★★★  
Rooms ★★★★

### What's the story?

The second opening from Bespoke Hotels' NYC-loving Brooklyn brand, following a Manchester debut in 2020, pitches up in Leicester next door to the rugby stadium — although it's aiming at families, couples, city-breakers and corporate events as well as sports fans. There are 191 rooms in total.

### What do we like?

This edition cuts loose from the Manchester hotel's *Guys & Dolls* theme with more of a freewheelin', *Empire State of Mind* approach to New York-inspired design. Despite some quirky touches, including dog sculptures arguing over a hot dog and framed corridor collages mashing up Big Apple iconography with



Sitting area at the hotel



A bedroom

Leicester landmarks such as Abbey Park, the overall effect sometimes feels a bit corporate — more of a surface-level take on Brooklyn's cool factor rather than an authentic capture of its creative edge.

The generously sized bedrooms feature industrial grey hues, retro telephones, F Scott Fitzgerald novels on writing desks and more NYC/Leicester art prints. They also come with comfy mattresses, while triangular bathrooms contain sleek monsoon showers. An impressive 16 rooms have been designed for guests with disabilities, including ten fully accessible Liberty suites, two with electric hoists. Couples or celebrating rugby supporters might opt for one of the

fifth-floor Terrace suites, whose outdoor hot tubs overlook the Leicester Tigers' Welford Road stadium, while families have the option of interconnecting rooms or the Governor Suite.

In the restaurant, bar and lounge the Lair, you'll find jungly wallpaper with tigers and foxes — references to Leicester's rugby and football teams. The menu predictably includes burgers, steaks and New York cheesecake alongside international offerings such as arancini or falafel. Some dishes lack flavour or heat, however, and portions can feel small for the prices. Brooklyn Beer is on tap, complemented by playful cocktails; whiskey sours are turned purple

Graeme Green was a guest of Hotel Brooklyn Leicester, which has B&B doubles from £99; mains from £14.50 ([hotelbrooklynlei.co.uk](http://hotelbrooklynlei.co.uk))



courtesy of red wine. Breakfast involves a waffle machine and mini-muffins as chefs produce hefty omelettes to order.

### What's nearby?

Not only are fans a rugby ball's throw from the action, but a raised walkway links directly to the stadium's hospitality area. You're a 15-minute walk from the train station, city centre and temporarily closed cathedral, where King Richard III's remains are interred, and closer still to the King Power Stadium and Leicester Museum & Art Gallery. Nor does it take a rocket to get to the National Space Centre — merely a 20-minute taxi ride. **Graeme Green**

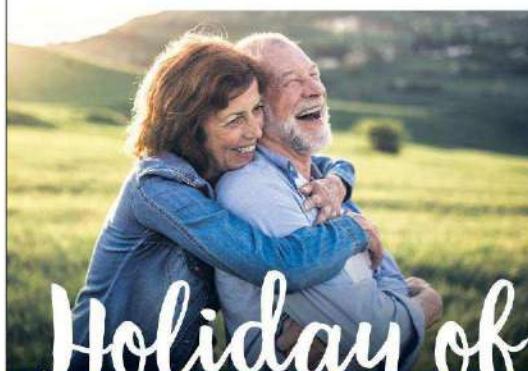


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# Travel doctor

## Solving your holiday dilemmas

**Julia Brookes**  
Consumer expert

**Q** We'd like to do a Greek island-hopping cruise in the first two weeks of June. I was planning to travel with Riviera, but it's not offering this itinerary next year. Can you suggest an alternative?  
*David White*

**A** The four-masted tall ship Star Flyer sails from Athens on June 10, with stops in Patmos, Amorgos, Mykonos and Spetses, and Kusadasi in Turkey (for the archaeological wonders at Ephesus). It starts at £1,630pp (stardclippers.co.uk; fly to Athens).

If life on a 12-cabin traditional wooden-hulled motorsailer appeals, a seven-night Ionian Island Fantasy cruise from Corfu visits Meganissi, Lefkas, Parga and Paxos. It starts at £991pp half-board, plus £44pp port charges (seafarer cruises.com; fly to Corfu).

If you prefer the big-ship vibe, NCL's seven-night jaunt from Athens around the Greek isles on Norwegian Jade on June 11 includes Santorini, Mykonos and Rhodes, and starts at £1,640pp for an inside cabin, including flights (ncl.com).

**Q** I'm planning to travel to California in July for two to three weeks with my wife and children, aged 18 and 16. We plan to fly to Los Angeles or San Francisco and visit Yosemite, the Grand Canyon and Las Vegas. Can you give me some idea of the cost and how to book this trip?  
*Richard Crane*

**A** The easiest way to arrange this epic road trip is through a specialist tour operator. American Sky, for example, can tailor-make itineraries and suggests that you start with four nights relaxing in Santa Monica, then head to Palm Springs, Flagstaff, Las Vegas, Mammoth Lakes (for Yosemite) and San Francisco, with two nights in each. You'd stay in some swish hotels en route, including the seaside Viceroy Santa Monica, with



Porto Katsiki on Lefkada, Greece



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its poolside cabanas, and Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Fourteen nights' room only next July starts at £2,149pp, including flights and SUV hire (americanfly.co.uk).

The American Road Trip Company could set up a similar bespoke itinerary: its Cali Coast and Vegas 14-night trip starts in San Francisco and includes 17-Mile Drive on the Monterey peninsula, the Pacific Coast Highway, Palm Springs and Joshua Tree National Park. It would cost about £2,700pp, including flights and SUV hire (theamericanroadtrip company.co.uk). You can extend the trip to three weeks, but inflation and the exchange rate mean that the US is now expensive, especially in the tourist honeypots, and you may find that two weeks is long enough.

**Q** When I made a booking for travel in January with Jet2holidays, the arrangements for resort transfers seemed to have changed. Previously, if you didn't require a regular resort transfer — from which disabled people with mobility scooters are forbidden — you received a discount of about £40. Alternatively, on production of a letter from your GP confirming your disability, Jet2 would provide an adapted transfer. However, now it

appears neither to allow us to use the coach transfer nor provide an adapted transfer. Consequently, we are paying for a package holiday in which we will be left at the destination airport to find our own way to the accommodation. Surely this can't be right?  
*Margaret Chatterton*

**A** You say that a Jet2 adviser told you it was no longer possible to arrange an adapted transfer, but Jet2 insists its policy for those needing special assistance has not changed, although it now asks customers to fill in an online form rather than email or ring customer services, and says that forms are worked through in departure-date order. Customers can book adapted transfers at no additional cost, and seats are allocated close to the front of the aircraft free of charge. "Although Mrs Chatterton had not heard back from us when she contacted *The Times*, we can confirm that we have been in touch with her and are pleased to say that everything has been fully arranged for her and her husband," it said. "We look forward to welcoming them onboard with us again and wish them both a lovely holiday."

**Q** We were scheduled to fly to Turkey with easyJet, so checked in online and

printed our boarding passes. When we got to the gate we were refused boarding because my passport was five days short of the six months' validity required for entry to Turkey, yet we had given the expiry dates of our passports along with the rest of our details. We are pensioners and can ill afford this loss, and easyJet will not even give us credit for the return flight. I understand it's my responsibility to have a valid passport, but the airline issued the boarding pass. Can you help?  
*Miles Bennett*

**A** It has been hard enough to get airlines to accept responsibility when they mistakenly deny boarding to passengers whose passports are valid; there is absolutely no chance they will offer a refund for those who don't meet a requirement. On its booking page, easyJet explains that it is the passenger's responsibility to ensure passport validity. I hope that highlighting your experience will encourage others to double-check these details long before travel.

### Contact us

If you have a gripe, suggestion or question relating to your holidays, please email [traveldoctor@thetimes.co.uk](mailto:traveldoctor@thetimes.co.uk)

**Don't put up with this**  
Late cancellation left us out of pocket

For a trip to celebrate our tenth wedding anniversary in July we booked a beautiful-looking houseboat on a canal in Amsterdam through Vrbo. When we arrived there was a note pinned on the door asking us to phone a number in France, and we were then told

that the owner of the boat "had an accident" and was in hospital. I rang Vrbo, but it was nearly 5pm and its number was engaged. While I was on hold we decided not to waste any more time and booked somewhere else to stay. When we finally got through to Vrbo we were told that the owner had just cancelled the booking, two hours after it was supposed to start. The company's promise to help us to find accommodation in an emergency was worthless because it had taken so long to get hold of an agent. Although we did get our money back, the hotel we booked was more

than £500 costlier than the boat. Can you help me to get this refunded?  
*Keith Saunders*

Vrbo said that because the host cancelled your reservation, you were eligible for rebooking under its Book with Confidence guarantee. But this was of little use if you couldn't get through to its call centre. Fortunately, after my involvement, it acknowledged that the situation was stressful for you and your wife, contacted you to apologise and as a gesture of goodwill has offered to refund you £512 – the difference between the cancelled booking and the cost of your hotel.

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- Thu 28 Boca da Valeria, Brazil (depart pm) ★Amazon River\*
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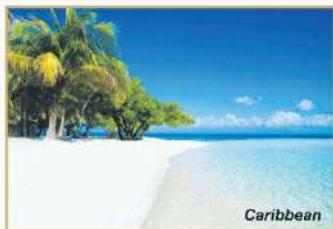
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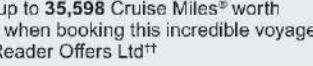
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Fares are per person based on two adults sharing, may increase or be withdrawn at any time. Offer applies to new bookings only. Ports may require a tender. Flights may be indirect. \*Will incur supplementary costs and may require an additional overnight stay. +Subject to the cruise line's T&Cs. SAVINGS are based on two adults sharing. \*All-inclusive relates to the cruise element only. \*Included shore excursions exclude Regent Choice Excursions and private arrangements. Some shore excursions will be unavailable for guests with mobility restrictions. Shore excursions mentioned are subject to change and can be booked up to 365 days prior to departure - depending on suite grade. \*Wildlife sightings are not guaranteed. \*Subject to availability. \*\*Pre-cruise stay is not combinable with the pre-cruise land tour and is subject to availability. \*\*\*Cruise Miles® T&Cs apply. Regent Seven Seas Cruises® T&Cs apply. E&OE.



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  - INCLUDED unlimited drinks including fine wines and premium spirits, plus in-suite mini-bar replenished daily\*\*
  - INCLUDED pre-paid gratuities\*\*
  - INCLUDED unlimited Wi-Fi for all suites\*\*
  - INCLUDED butler service for Penthouse Suites and above
  - INCLUDED 24-hour room service & laundry service
- Return flights from London (regional and premium class flights may be available on request\*) and overseas transfers

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